

RURAL/URBAN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS APPLICATION FOR 30TH NOVEMBER 2016 EXECUTIVE :

Applicant : Leamington Cricket Club

Description of scheme: The focus of this application is about increasing the numbers of children, young adults and adults playing cricket, and improving the facilities at the club for all that use it. The Club would like to provide up-to-date safe facilities, however, the outfield on the junior/ 3rd team pitch is not up to the required standard to ensure the ground can be used by the junior teams and the Warwickshire blind and visually impaired team in a safe manner. The Club need to level the outfield so that health & safety issues are removed and more junior games can be played as well as continuing the use by the Warwickshire blind and visually impaired teams. Refurbishing the outfield will enable delivery of a better standard of coaching, have more coaching nights and invite more schools and community groups to use the ground. There have been expressions of interest from local teams wanting to use the ground which the Club would be able to do, for example; Leamington Lemmings have no ground themselves and play friendly games on Sunday afternoons.

Evidence of need: The current outfield is uneven and is creating health & safety issues for the junior and Warwickshire blind and visually impaired teams. Additionally:

- In Club meetings involving key members and coaches who are all level two trained by the English Cricket Board it was highlighted that there was a need to improve the standard of coaching and training at the club, a big factor to help do this was to refurbish the outfield on the junior/3rd team pitch; a letter from Neil Smith, the Club's Chairman of Cricket and one of the coaches supporting this grant application, has provided a letter to evidence this.
- The Club completed a survey to all members using Survey Monkey software, one of the things that came out of this was to have more opportunities for all children to play by putting on more games; the Club would be able to do this by improving the third team square and outfield.
- The Club also completed a parental consultation which provided useful feedback; many parents have boys and girls at very young ages and indicated a need to get them active and engaged in interests within environments that are family safe and organised such as cricket clubs.

A "Review of Junior Cricket 2016" document has been provided to summarise the findings from these surveys.

3 years accounts received? 2013 - 2015 accounts have been received, along with a recent bank statements covering the period 21st June to 20th October 2016; this evidences sufficient cash reserves to meet the contribution stated on the application form.

Financial Performance; minus figure = deficit	Year ended 30/09/15	Year ended 30/09/14	Year ended 30/09/13
	£8,398	£8,045	£6,233

Available Funds (cash and reserves)	Year ended 30/09/15	Year ended 30/09/14	Year ended 30/09/13
	£10,002	£9,947	£1,639

Details of membership, fees etc: The club has a membership scheme broken down into three groups; senior members £90 per season, junior members £40 per season and social membership at £25 per season. The ground can also be hired for cricket games at a reduced rate of £50 per match.

Details of usage: Leamington Cricket Club plays a big part in the local community and allows the ground to be used by a vast array of teams, community groups and schools. The Club is the headquarters for the Warwickshire Blind and Visually Impaired team, hosting international games and disability festivals. The Club also allow use of the ground for Warwickshire coaching camps and Warwickshire age group matches. The Club doesn't charge any money for the use of the ground for the schools festival, blind and visually impaired, disabled, or the local pub teams, and they offer reduced rates for Warwickshire and Coventry University game. For example:

- 9 junior teams during cricket season April to September, playing 4-5 games a week, with each game involving approx. 22 children.
- 4 adult teams during the same period, playing 3-4 games a week involving 22 adults.
- International games for the England Blind and visually impaired are bid for; the Club have been successful in being chosen over the last two years for the Australia and India games and will again bid for games next season. These games involve 22 players.
- Warwickshire Blind use the ground for training every couple of weeks and on average once a month for games during the season again 22 players involved.
- Warwick and Coventry University play on average every couple of weeks in the season involving 22 students in each game.
- There is a local pub team using the ground on a weekday night involves 22 non-members.
- The Club host coaching nights on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday where over the week over 250 children attend.
- Indoor training in the winter runs from October through to March and involves around 70 children each week.
- There is a schools festival held in July each year involving 6-7 schools where 70 children who are not members use the ground for free.
- Coaching camps are held at the ground for three weeks in July and August each season, involving approx. 50 local children some of which will be members and some not.
- The Club hold community days; this season one was held for a local company "Building and Plumbing Supplies".

For all this cricket it is important that the ground is up to the required standard. The outfield has had no real remedial work for over 20 years and is in need of refurbishment and made more disabled friendly, so all parties in the community are able to partake in playing sport and enjoying a healthy lifestyle.

Details of Organisations equalities policies:

The Club has an equality policy which is listed on their website and is forwarded to all members at the start of the season; the Club state that they are a fully inclusive club and offer facilities to all, they have also been awarded Clubmark status by Warwickshire Cricket Club for the way the club is run. A copy of the constitution has been provided and a letter confirming the Clubmark status.

3 quotes provided:

Yes - three quotes have been received.

Which of the Council's Corporate Priorities are met?

Evidence

Reduce anti-social behaviour

- 9 junior teams and 4 adult teams currently use the facilities, in particular the 3rd team pitch that the project is to repair is utilised by the junior teams.
 - The ground is also used by other teams for matches as noted in the above sections, for example; schools, universities, disabled, blind, and local teams.
 - With an improved and safe 3rd pitch there are plans to increase the number of coaching sessions held and for there to be more use by schools and community groups, for example; local pub teams who do not have access to a pitch and schools who again have no facilities.
- By having more children and young adults able to play cricket and attend events/activities, regardless of their social standing, will help to reduce anti social behaviour.

Reducing obesity, particularly in children

- 9 junior cricket teams and 4 adult teams use the facilities, in particular the third team pitch that the project is to repair is utilised by the junior teams.
- The ground is used by other teams for matches, for example; Arnold Lodge, Warwick and Coventry University.
- With an improved and safe 3rd team pitch there are plans to increase the number of coaching sessions held and for there to be more use by schools and community groups, for example; having two teams per age group at the club rather than the one the club currently has, to give all children the chance to play.
- Annual schools festival is held with approximately 70 children involved.

Playing cricket is an energetic sport that helps people, including children, to get fitter, lose weight and keep healthy in the best condition possible.

Increase opportunities for everyone to enjoy and participate in sports, arts and cultural activities

Without repairing the 3rd team pitch, it will at some stage become unusable which will reduce opportunities for members of the community, in particular children to enjoy and participate in sporting activity. By repairing the pitch now it will resolve health & safety concerns and ensure that current use continues, however it will also enable the club to increase the number of coaching sessions held and we also plan to invite more schools and community groups to use the ground which will increase opportunities for the community to participate. The Club also hold a yearly schools festival so that all local children can experience the game and hopefully then join the club.

Engaging and strengthening communities

The Club are involved with all groups in the community and have strong links that continue to expand each year with the different initiatives that the Club does, the latest one being the setting up of a junior committee to run extra games for all age groups, and also organise the schools festival. All groups regardless of race, disability, age or gender are allowed to play at the club, there are universities, schools, disabled groups and children from 5-16 years playing the game. The Club do not turn anyone away and offer discounts and free places to under privileged children so they can also be involved in sport.

The Club has over 70 volunteers who are from all aspects of the local community ranging from 15 to 70 years, families also go to watch their children play which encourages other members of the family to get involved and also by holding community events and the schools festival this encourages more community involvement and further helps to strengthen the links.

Targetting disadvantage in rural / urban areas:

The Club offers free ground usage such as the schools festival and local teams, they also offer free places and reduced membership costs, and coaching camps in the summer and indoor training in the winter where again they offer free or reduced cost places. For example; a family which has three children only having to pay for two children for winter and summer coaching and families with two children involved where prices are reduced.

Total cost of scheme (including VAT where appropriate)

£9,972 Including VAT

Funded by:

Status

Leamington Town Council

£1,500 Application made, waiting for a decision

Own Funds

£495 If Leamington Town Council decline the application made or award a reduced amount, the budget shortfall will also come out of the Club's cash reserves

Total RUCIS

£7,977 Small Grants Category - projects less than £10,000, contribute up to a maximum of 80%

equates to

80.0%