

RURAL/URBAN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS - APPLICATION FOR 19th JUNE 2013 EXECUTIVE

Applicant :	Warwick Sports Club		
Description of scheme:	The intention is to; a) build an extension to create disabled toilet facilities, baby changing facilities and provide a new entrance to the club with easier and closer access to/from the car park, b) make improvements to the veranda for disabled access to the club, c) refurbish the kitchen, and d) widen and resurface the roadway entrance. This will improve access to the facilities especially for disabled people and people with young families.		
Evidence of need:	Currently the building and access to it are not conducive to easy access for disabled people and there are no suitable toilet facilities. Without these facilities the club cannot be regarded as being a fully inclusive and non-discriminatory club. Additionally, the improved facilities will enable new activities to be started such as coffee mornings and lunch clubs in connection with "The Sky Blues in the Community" for the residents of the local estates which will mean an increased usage of the clubhouse. The project will enable the club to fulfil its legal requirements with regards to access and hygiene. Letters of support have been provided by Cllr John Holland and Cllr Higgins (for the SITA application).		
3 years accounts received?	2009 - 2012 have been received, along with copies of the AGM minutes to evidence that the accounts were agreed by the members. The most recent bank statements have also been provided which cover the period 3rd December 2012 to 18th March 2013		
Financial Performance (minus figure = deficit)	Year ended 31/12/12 £2,521	Year ended 31/12/11 -£3,570	Year ended 31/12/10 £2,203
Available Funds (cash and reserves)	Year ended 31/12/12 £5,413	Year ended 31/12/11 £5,972	Year ended 31/12/10 £8,907
Details of membership, fees etc:	The Club currently has 258 adult members and 215 junior members, 86% of which are within the Warwick District area. Membership fees range from a £12pa for social membership to £180pa for full adult membership of the hockey club; the cricket and tennis club fees are £70pa and £135pa respectively. The junior fees range from £32pa-£100pa depending on the sport and age. Members also pay a match fee of up to £8 to cover league costs, equipment and teas.		
Details of usage:	Hockey members use the clubhouse from September to April, Cricket members use it from April to September and Tennis members use it all year round. Social activities, training and meetings mean that members of Hockey and Cricket will use it outside of their playing season as well. The clubhouse is hired out to Slimming World for three sessions a week, it is used for Pilates, Tai-Chi, Yoga and Salsa dancing classes as well as being used by members of the local community for ad-hoc meetings and functions. This usage will also be augmented with additional activities being provided by "the Sky Blues in the Community"; some of the activities will be focussed on older people therefore there will be the need to improve access to the building and have disabled toilet facilities if the programme's objectives are to be fully achieved. It is hoped that refreshments and/or luncheon clubs can be introduced so that in time the club becomes more of a community club used as a drop-in centre or for community education groups.		
Details of Organisations equalities policies:	Warwick Sports Club and its three sections of Hockey, Cricket and Tennis are all registered as Community Amateur Sports Clubs; they are all run by volunteers and are managed on a non-profit basis. In addition the Tennis and Cricket clubs have been awarded ClubMark status to show that their policies of opportunity, equality, safety and child protection all conform to the required standards. The Club's primary overall policy is to offer all people of all ages in the local community the opportunity to play hockey, cricket and tennis in a safe environment at a reasonable price, as well as to provide the opportunity for them to learn and improve their sporting skills. However, to achieve this, the Club has to make the best use of the facilities it has available and, as such, it recognises the need to allow the clubhouse to be used for more daytime community based activities. Overall, the project will provide a more inclusive facility for all its members, their families and any members of the local community visiting the club or attending any of the activities offered at the club.		
3 quotes provided for schemes in excess of £10,000:	Yes - a number of quotes have been received; three quotes each for the building extension, the veranda improvements and the kitchen refurbishment, four quotes for the roadway entrance		

Which of the Council's Corporate Priorities are met?:	Evidence
Increase opportunities for everyone to enjoy and participate in sports, arts and cultural activities	The project will primarily improve facilities and access to them for disabled people, older people and also people with young families. The improved disability access will enable some disabled sports to be offered at the club, for example; the tennis coach is planning to introduce a tennis programme for disabled people. The kitchen will also allow for the safe preparation of foodstuffs to members and visitors, this will also allow lunch clubs to be started for the wider community. The project will therefore facilitate and encourage more usage of the clubhouse by members of the wider community for sporting and social opportunities. The Club is also currently working with the NHS and SafeLine to run group sessions for adults with mental health difficulties and some 12-14yr olds with special needs; these will be held on a regular basis at the club.
Engaging and strengthening Communities	The club has an open door policy for anyone to join the club whether as a sports section member or as a social member, however, the club is also used for community activities such as salsa dancing, Pilates, Yoga, TaiChi, Slimming World, ad-hoc functions (i.e. birthday, anniversary, wedding, christening parties) and for health / educational groups. Visitors and members' families also use the facility to watch the sports. The project will enable the club to be more welcoming and inclusive, especially to disabled people and people with young children.
Reduce Anti Social Behaviour	Being a member of a club or being involved in some way with a club, especially a sports club, can re-channel people's energies into something positive. It provides a sense of purpose, of well-being and a belonging to the local community. This undoubtedly helps to reduce any tendency for anti-social behaviour and therefore leads to a safer community more generally. Warwick Sports Club is situated in the Warwick West ward, a recognised income deprived area, and the residents (especially the youngsters) in this area need to have such a facility that this club offers them at an affordable price, thereby avoiding claims that such sports are elitist. The clubhouse needs these additional and improved facilities for the continued and future use by members and the wider community.
Reducing Obesity, particularly in children	The more the club can do to encourage people to come to the club, especially to take part in sporting or its physical art activities, the more it will do to help people keep their weight under control and to keep fit. Half the membership is under 18 years of age and they are encouraged by the coaches to eat and drink sensibly as well as to be active. The clubhouse is also used for three sessions of Slimming World every Tuesday and they have links with the tennis club to encourage them to participate in sport at the same time as controlling their calorie intake. The new and increasing programme of physical art and education activities will build on this legacy and this project and its component parts will enable this work to continue to a wider section of the community.
Targeting disadvantage Rural/ Urban locations	The club is situated in Hampton Road opposite the racecourse in the Warwick West ward and has a long history of being part of the community. Warwick West is one of the priority areas identified by the Council and it is imperative that facilities such as Warwick Sports Club and its Pavilion remain within the centre of the local community and that it can accommodate all people wishing to use it. The club plays an important part in offering a number of sports and other activities to local people and in so doing helps to keep crime down and helps the community to lead a healthier lifestyle.
Total cost of scheme excluding VAT	£52,400 excluding VAT (voluntarily VAT registered - partially exempt, will be reclaiming some VAT from the project)
VAT	£10,500 This is the maximum amount, however, part of the VAT is likely to be reclaimed from HMRC
Funded by:	Status
Town Council	£1,000 Approved
Own Funds	£1,000 Approved
SITA	£20,000 Requested
King Henry VIII Trust	£4,200 Requested
Total Rural Initiatives Scheme	£26,200 on total project costs excluding VAT, up to a maximum of £5,250 towards VAT that is unable to be reclaimed from HMRC
equates to	£31,450
VAT will initially be funded by a short-term loan from Warwick Tennis Club	50.0% £10,500