

RURAL/URBAN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS APPLICATION FOR 6TH FEBRUARY 2019 EXECUTIVE :

Applicant : Warwick Tennis Club

Description of scheme: The project is to change the surface on Court 6 to a 'carpet' to lessen the effects of moss and to make the court less slippery in the winter, it will also provide floodlights so that play can continue into the evening which will release the pressure on the other courts during the peak evening periods and at weekends. The two elements of the Project are therefore:

1. Make good any defects in the tarmacadam on Court 6 and then lay a Match Play 2 or similar carpet on top.
2. Install 6 lighting columns around Court 6 to match the design and type of those around the other 5 courts.

The project will extend the life of court 6 by at least another 12/15 years.

Evidence of need: The project is responding to requests from the club's coaching team and the members who want to see all of the courts available for use for the maximum amount of time; currently members are reluctant to use Court 6 because it can be relatively more dangerous to play on as it can be slippery because of rain and moss (the moss growing on the surface is visually obvious) which can cause players to lose their balance. The court surface also produces uneven bounces that causes players to twist and turn awkwardly and can lead to injury. As well as from the members of the club and the organisations that use the sports club, letters/emails of support for the project have also been provided by Cllr Ashford (5/11/18), Safeline Charity (13/11/18) and the Packmores Community Centre (16/11/18)

3 years accounts received? 3 years accounts for 2015/16 to 2017/18 have been received along with bank statements summarising all accounts held dated 29th March 2018 (to evidence year-end accounts) and, more recently, 29th November 2018

Financial Performance; minus figure = deficit	Year ended 31/03/18	Year ended 31/03/17	Year ended 31/03/16
	£9,193	£6,783	£7,056

Available Funds (cash and reserves)	Year ended 31/03/18	Year ended 31/03/17	Year ended 31/03/16
	£69,112	£60,220	£53,437

**Details of membership,
fees etc:**

The membership fees and visitor charges are:

- Adult = £155pa
- Student = £65pa
- Junior (under 18) = £36pa
- Visitor adult = £5 per day
- Visitor junior = £1 per day
- Group hire = £5 per hour per court

With 10% discount for family membership or senior membership. Other discounts can also apply when joining on one of the Club's 2 Open Days that it holds each year.

Details of usage:

Warwick Tennis Club (WTC) is a Community Amateur Sport Club (CASC) and is registered with the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA); it is a non-profit organisation run for the benefit of its members and has a fully inclusive admission policy. WTC is an integral part of Warwick Sports Club that also has a Hockey and a Cricket Club; WTC serves the local community primarily through providing tennis opportunities for anyone and everyone that is interested in playing tennis, it provides opportunities for coaching, social and competitive tennis for people of all ages and for all abilities, for example:

- Adult and Junior Membership levels currently stand at a healthy 117 and 136 respectively and with 7 coaches, the number of visitor players, non-member players and school use, the courts are in constant use during the weekdays and weekends
- During the summer term the courts are also used by Westgate School for one afternoon a week as part of their outdoor activity time
- During school holidays, the club provides well organised activities during the day for children, all run under the supervision of the coaching team
- Outside school holidays, the courts are used heavily after 3.30pm until 9pm, sometimes until 10pm, however, Court 6 can't be used later in the evening because there are no floodlights which increases the pressure on the other 5 courts.
- WTC also works closely with;
 - o Safe Line (a charity organisation that helps young vulnerable children) who hold regular courses at the clubhouse, and
 - o Slimming World who hold weekly meetings there as well. The club's active association and engagement with Slimming World has led to them using the tennis facilities and a number of people have become active members of the tennis club

Details of Organisations equalities policies:

As a registered CASC and a member club of the Lawn Tennis Association, WTC has demonstrated that it has the appropriate constitution, club rules and policies in place on equality and diversity and that it adheres to all the necessary codes of practice. The following highlights have been extracted from the club's equality policy:

- 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.
- WTC, 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. WTC 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.
- WTC will not tolerate harassment, bullying, abuse or victimisation of an individual (which the WTC regards as forms of discrimination). This includes sexual or racially based harassment or other discriminatory behaviour, whether physical or verbal. WTC will work to ensure that such behaviour is met with appropriate action in whatever context it occurs.

3 quotes provided:

Yes - 7 quotes in total for all aspects of the project work

Which of the Council's Corporate Priorities are met?

Evidence

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 as well as providing activity to help prevent boredom, this undoubtedly helps to reduce any tendency for anti-social behaviour and therefore leads to a safer community more generally. Warwick Tennis 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. The club needs these improvements for the continued and future use by members and the wider community; the project will not only provide a better facility but it will keep fees down and therefore affordable to people in the local community as the project will increase capacity for court usage by extending more opportunity to play sport in evenings and at weekends, this will therefore further help to reduce anti-social behaviour.

Reducing obesity, particularly in children

The more the club can do to encourage people to come to take part in sporting or physical 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 two 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. Likewise, SafeLine have incorporated tennis lessons into their programmes as well. The project will increase capacity for court usage by extending more opportunity to play sport in evenings and at weekends, this will therefore further help to reduce obesity including within children.

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

The project will further improve the facilities at the club and will encourage more usage of the courts by members and visitors; longer term it is hoped that this will encourage more people to join and hence the income to the club will increase, thus keeping membership and activity fees to a minimum. The club is also currently working closely with the SafeLine Charity so that vulnerable teenagers who attend the courses can also take part in tennis lessons; more opportunities will be possible following the completion of this project as it will increase capacity for court usage; floodlights will be installed on court 6 which will enable more evening play time which will increase opportunity for the community to enjoy and participate in sporting activity.

Engaging and strengthening communities

The club has an open door policy such that anyone without discrimination can join the club whether as a sports section member or as a social member; the clubhouse is also used for community activities such as dancing, fitness, courses such as those run by SafeLine, meetings such as Slimming World and for functions (for example; birthday, anniversary, weddings, christening parties etc) as well as for use by visitors and members' families to watch the sports. The project will encourage more people to use the tennis club which can only help strengthen that feeling of being part of a community, the club is also managed and run by a wide range of volunteers from the community; this all helps to engage and strengthen the community.

Total cost of scheme (excluding VAT)

£35,532

Funded by:

Status

Warwick Town Council

£1,000

Application made, waiting for a decision

Lawn Tennis Association Loan

£5,000

Email provided confirming loan shouldn't be a problem subject to the usual application and agreement (formal application to be made after Warwick Town Council grant decision; if WTC grant request declined, LTA loan application will increase to £6,000)

Organisations Own Funds

£11,766

These funds have been evidenced through their annual accounts and the provision of a recent bank statement

Total RUCIS

£17,766

equates to

50.0%