

## RURAL/URBAN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS APPLICATION FOR 2ND JULY 2014 EXECUTIVE :

**Applicant :** Whitnash Town Council

**Description of scheme:** The Measured mile will provide a track around the park made from recycled material; the way will be marked to show how far people have walked, cycled, run, pushed prams etc. Exercise equipment will be placed at each corner so residents can 'stop off' and use the equipment if they wish; a sign at the entrance to the park will explain this. There is also a need to fence part of the track and provide a path; this will keep children on the track from getting onto and then out of the field in the far corner and will also prevent residents from causing damage by walking over the playing surface of the football and Rugby pitches as a short cut. The Measured Mile will be used by all ages, for example; children learning to ride bikes, football and rugby players to train, older people wishing to walk around the park and teenagers wanting to use the gym equipment. This will further enhance the park following the play equipment and planting put in by the Friends of Acre Close and the Town Council.

**Evidence of need:** \* Letter of complaint from Whitnash Sports & Social Club (football section) on the danger to their footballers due to the ruts in the pitch caused by residents walking across as a short cut.  
\* Letters of support from local residents, Whitnash WI, Whitnash Charitable Trust, Friends of Acre Close, WDC Cultural Services (Manoj Sonecha - Active Communities Officer)  
\* Friends of Acre Close held a survey at the Whitnash Fun Day to collect comments and ideas on what people would do if there was a measured mile on the field; a wide range of residents of all ages from across the community responded to the survey.

Copies of the above documents have been provided.

**3 years accounts received?** 2010 - 2013 accounting statements have been received, along with a recent bank statement covering the period 16th to 23rd May 2014.

Financial Performance; minus figure = deficit	Year ended 31/03/13	Year ended 31/03/12	Year ended 31/03/11	Year ended 31/03/10
	£12,837	£7,674	£8,405	£1,367

Available Funds ( cash and reserves )	Year ended 31/03/13	Year ended 31/03/12	Year ended 31/03/11	Year ended 31/03/10
	£122,167	£114,616	£107,393	£95,416

**Details of membership, fees etc:** None

**Details of usage:** The Town Council provides a range of services for its residents, this includes the management of open spaces in the town. This specific project is for more facilities on Acre Close, Whitnash.

**Details of Organisations equalities policies:** The Town Council is run by its standing orders and the equality policy is included in this.

**3 quotes provided:** Yes - three quotes have been received

**Which of the Council's Corporate Priorities are met?** **Evidence**

**Reduce anti-social behaviour** The Measured Mile will provide a track around the park made from recycled material. This will be used by all ages, for example; children learning to ride bikes, football and rugby players to train and teenagers wanting to use the gym equipment. This will further enhance the park following the play equipment already put in by the Friends of Acre Close and the Town Council. This facility will give young people something to do and will encourage the park to be even better used. This will help to reduce anti-social behaviour.

**Reducing obesity, particularly in children** The Measured Mile gives all residents a chance to walk, cycle, "buggy fit" and use the sports equipment in a safe environment for all ages. The facility will also be available to the primary school located next to the park and also other nearby schools. The field next to the park is open and combined with the park facility can be used by groups such as brownies, guides, scouts and the youth club.

**Increase opportunities for everyone to enjoy and participate in sports, arts and cultural activities** As above.

**Engaging and strengthening communities** The Community came together to support the first phase of improvements to the park and are again supporting this next phase, for example; The Friends of Acre Close undertook a residents questionnaire at the Fun day on behalf of the Town Council. The Measured Mile also gives additional opportunity for the park to be used and enjoyed by a wide range of residents of all ages from across the community; this helps to engage and strengthen the community.

**Targeting disadvantage in rural / urban areas:** The park, including the planned Measured Mile, provides a free leisure facility for the whole community to use; this helps residents who cannot afford to travel to other areas for sports facilities / exercise. It is also on a main bus route and close to shops creating opportunity for local businesses / shops.

**Total cost of scheme (including VAT where appropriate)** £80,631

**Funded by:** **Status**

**Town Council / Own Funds** £2,000 Approved - minutes of the Council's Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting dated 26th September 2013 have been provided

**WREN** £48,767 Request has been made; waiting for a decision

**Total RUCIS**

Made up of £24,500 agreed in Dec 2013 (RUCIS 190) plus an additional £5,364 as Third Party Payment  
**£29,864** to WREN

**equates to**

**37.0%** Increased from 32% (RUCIS 190)