

RURAL/URBAN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS APPLICATION FOR 14th JANUARY 2015 EXECUTIVE :**Applicant :****Warwickshire Association of Youth Clubs (wayc)****Description of scheme:**

The project will; a) Refurbish the dilapidated sports court, replacing the vandalised and broken kickboards and fencing with sports rebound fencing and replacing the tarmac with a polymeric sports surface and, b) Upgrade the electrics to the existing floodlights to allow a timer or token control system so the facility can still be used when there is no one in the community centre or office (restricted so they cannot be turned on overnight).

Evidence of need:

Visually there is an obvious need; weather-worn and graffiti-strewn kickboards, broken single-strand fencing, overhanging branches coming through the fencing and the weeds in the tarmac all make it look like a derelict site. Consultations were carried out in 2011, February 2013, May 2013, and November 2013:

- * Balls get kicked out of the court and children they have to crawl through the fence (which has been cut in places) to retrieve them.
 - * The floodlights aren't automatic and only come on if there's someone in the office, so no one can use the courts at night or in the evenings in winter.
 - * There aren't any goal posts any more
 - * Several people wanted improvements to the surface, and suggested better pitch markings, and astro-turf or artificial grass.
- Local residents have complained that it's an eyesore. Young people designed and distributed a questionnaire for neighbours, comments as follows:
- * "I'd like to see the sports court properly marked out. I believe the young people in the area would benefit greatly from this."
 - * "It needs to be more safe, new goals, basketball nets, new floor"
 - * "It could have a more positive effect with better surface, boarding, lighting etc. It needs major refurbishment"

Sport clubs have advised that they do not like using tarmac, however, they would use an artificial surface, eg. Leamington Town Football Club, Whitnash Town Junior Football Club, and Support Sport. Letters of support have been provided by Leamington Town Council, Whitnash Town Jnr FC and Support Sport.

Young people set up a Facebook page to 'Save the Westbury Centre Sports Courts' and have taken photos to show why it needs refurbishing:

**3 years accounts received?**

2011 - 2014 accounts have been received, along with bank statements covering periods between September - November 2014 and investment statements as at July 2014.

Financial Performance; minus figure = deficit

Year ended	Year ended	Year ended	Year ended
31/3/14	31/3/13	31/3/12	31/3/11
£2,230	-£154,783	-£17,422	£26,820

Available Funds (cash and reserves)

Year ended	Year ended	Year ended	Year ended
31/3/14	31/3/13	31/3/12	31/3/11
£205,433	£155,368	£178,493	£172,670

Details of membership, fees etc:

It is an open access court, with no charge, for the whole community to use. Part of the wayc development plan once it is refurbished is for neighbouring sports clubs to hire it at a not-for-profit cost to use for training. This is to bring clubs into Brunswick so they can deliver sports locally for local people. Whitnash Town Junior Football Club, Leamington Town Football Club (Brakes), and a local Back-to-Netball group are interested in hiring the refurbished facility. Any income will go towards routine maintenance. WAYC will meet any shortfall through its general fundraising.

Details of usage:

The sports court is open to anyone to use to kick a football around, have basketball matches, do T'ai Chi outside, play tennis, etc. However, this facility is significantly under-used in part due to its dilapidated state and in part due to the lack of organised activities locally.

Details of Organisations equalities policies:

Wayc have provided a copy of their equality policy and have noted the following on their application: "Wayc is a youth work organisation, working to engage ALL young people in our activities, with a particular focus on vulnerable and disadvantaged young people. Equality is embedded in our work, our practice and our policies. We work hard to ensure no one is excluded from our work. Our office is based in Brunswick ward, next to the Westbury community sports court, so that we can deliver services in this community. We are refurbishing the court so that it becomes a facility which everyone and anyone can use, it is no longer an eyesore in the neighbourhood, and it becomes something that residents can be proud of.

3 quotes provided:

Yes - three quotes have been received.

Which of the Council's Corporate Priorities are met?**Evidence****Reduce anti-social behaviour**

Organised sports activities will take place on the refurbished sports court, therefore providing positive activities which distract from boredom and the risk of anti-social activity; young people have been involved in the campaign to refurbish the sports court and are therefore more likely to value and protect it. Replacing the broken kickboards with fencing will open up the site so it will be easier for self-policing; dilapidation attracts further vandalism, so its refurbishment reduces this type of anti-social behaviour.

Reducing obesity, particularly in children	Organised sports activities will be able to take place on the refurbished sports court, increasing participation by local children and young people. Young people have been involved in the campaign to refurbish the sports court, and so are more likely to take part in future sports activities. Through a separate revenue project, called Active South Leamington, Wayc will be delivering free sports activities across Brunswick and Willes wards over the next two years. Active South Leamington will be able to run activities from the refurbished sports court for young people, their parents and other local residents. This all helps to reduce obesity, particularly in children.	
Increase opportunities for everyone to enjoy and participate in sports, arts and cultural activities	The court is significantly under-used because it is currently not fit-for-purpose. A refurbished facility will be a new asset for the whole community to use and increase opportunities to take part in sports and physical activities.	
Engaging and strengthening communities	Young people have been helping Wayc develop this project, setting up a Facebook page, taking photos which were published in the Leamington Courier, visiting other sites to see what could be done at Westbury, helping with the Wayc funding bid to Sport England, giving us ideas for the types of activities they would like to take part in. These young people have been learning how to have a voice in their community and help improve their local area. This all helps to engage and strengthen the community.	
Targeting disadvantage in rural / urban areas:	Westbury community sports court is in Brunswick ward, one of the geographic priorities for Warwick's sustainable community strategy. Brunswick is in the top 30% for Multiple Deprivation. Child poverty is high, aspirations and attainment are low; less than half achieve 5 A*-C GCSEs (49%). The ward has the highest proportion of overweight young people and it is in the Middle-High Quantile for adult obesity. Wayc local consultation identifies an abundance of apathy and a lack of participation by young people; low self-expectations, low self-esteem, lack of confidence, a feeling of not belonging and strong feelings of isolation from the rest of the district / community.	
Total cost of scheme (including VAT where appropriate)	£73,200	
Funded by:	Status	
Town Council	£500	An application has been made, now waiting for a decision
Sport England	£49,998	This has been evidenced by a copy of the confirmation letter
Total RUCIS	£22,702	
equates to	31.0%	