

RURAL/URBAN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS APPLICATION FOR 9TH JANUARY 2019 EXECUTIVE :

Applicant : Avenue Bowls Club

Description of scheme: The project is to install LED lighting and rewire the clubhouse to resolve current health & safety issues.

Evidence of need: The club is a well-used by members throughout the year so it is essential to have a safe, well-maintained clubhouse; a report on the electrics in the clubhouse identified that a complete rewiring was needed which would need to be conducted by a qualified and accredited electrician. The project will resolve the current health & safety issues. LED lighting is more efficient and effective than standard lighting and reduces running costs.

3 years accounts received? 3 years accounts for 2014/15 to 2016/17 have been received along with a bank statement summarising all accounts held dated 31st August 2018

Financial Performance; minus figure = deficit	Year ended	Year ended	Year ended
	31/10/17	31/10/16	31/10/15
	£3,799	-£6,545	£9,673

Available Funds (cash and reserves)	Year ended	Year ended	Year ended
	31/10/17	31/10/16	31/10/15
	£18,199	£14,291	£20,820

Details of membership, fees etc: The club is a membership club open to all members of the community to apply. The fees are:

- Under 18's - £10
- Adults Year one - £42.50
- Adults Year two onwards - £85
- U3A member - £1
- Life member - free (to recognise significant contribution to the club)

Details of usage: The Avenue Bowls Club, Leamington Spa was formed in 1923; the club is affiliated to Bowls England, Warwickshire County Bowls Association, Warwickshire Women's Bowls Association, South Warwickshire Bowls Association and South Warwickshire Ladies Bowls Association. Membership includes:

- Under 16 - 1
- Under 18 - 2
- Men 45
- Women - 22
- Social - 16
- Life - 3
- University of Third Age (U3A) - circa 20

The club has a full programme of matches against other local bowls clubs (men's, ladies and mixed). The club also has teams in the Leamington Courier League and the Stratford Herald Ladies League (two teams) and U3A play weekly Thursday mornings. The club also run their own internal competitions and there is the opportunity to enter National, County and South Warwickshire competitions that include home matches. All members are given access to bowls equipment so that they can use the green at their convenience to have a 'roll up' and improve their skills when there are rinks available. This is well used by both the experienced and new bowlers and is free of charge. An annual free-of-charge open day is held each season which is open to the whole community, coaching is available each year, free-of-charge, every Monday and by individual request over a 6 week period (usually June to July). The green is used for practice/training for a nominal fee by visiting teams during the national championships held at Leamington club.

The clubhouse is a well-used facility by members throughout the year;

- During the bowling season the clubhouse is open daily Monday to Friday and weekends when there are home matches or visiting teams
- The bar is open every weekday evening throughout the season and on Sunday lunchtimes all year round
- The membership has a darts evening every Wednesday night and has a team that regularly plays against other local darts teams
- The membership has a crib team that plays every Sunday and competes in a local league
- On average, two to three social events are held every year, for example; galas, donkey derby, race nights, which also help to raise funds for the club which keeps membership fees as low as possible

Details of Organisations equalities policies: The equality policy has been provided, highlights of which include:

- Avenue Club is committed to achieving equal opportunities, respects and values diversity, and is committed to applying equality of opportunity in all its practices and objective/service delivery with regard to ethnic origin, age, gender, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marital status and disability
- It is the responsibility of everyone to ensure that no person receives less favourable treatment than another on the grounds of age, ethnic origin, disability, sexual orientation, religion or belief, marital status or gender.

3 quotes provided: Yes

Which of the Council's Corporate Priorities are met?

Evidence

Reduce anti-social behaviour

While the membership is predominately older people, bowling provides an intergenerational opportunity that can be enjoyed by all ages and the club has an under 16 member who is to participate in the under 18 national bowling programme. The green is used for local club matches, league matches and internal competition. The clubhouse is a well-used facility by members throughout the year;

- During the bowling season the clubhouse is open daily Monday to Friday and weekends when there are home matches or visiting teams
- The bar is open every weekday evening throughout the season and on Sunday lunchtimes all year round
- The membership has a darts evening every Wednesday night and has a team that regularly plays against other local darts teams
- The membership has a crib team that plays every Sunday and competes in a local league
- On average, two to three social events are held every year, for example; galas, donkey derby, race nights

The project will resolve current health & safety issues and will ensure that the clubhouse facility remains open for use. This all helps to reduce anti-social behaviour.

Reducing obesity, particularly in children

While the membership is predominately older people, bowling provides an intergenerational opportunity that can be enjoyed by all ages and the club has an under 16 member who is to participate in the under 18 national bowling programme. The club has a full programme of matches against other local bowls clubs and also has teams in the Leamington Courier League and the Stratford Herald Ladies League (two teams). U3A play weekly Thursday mornings. Internal competitions are held and there is the opportunity to enter National, County and South Warwickshire competitions that include home matches. The project will resolve current health & safety issues with the clubhouse which is regularly used by bowls players (both members and non-members) and also members playing darts. This all helps to reduce obesity.

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

The project will resolve current health & safety issues with the clubhouse which will ensure that this facility can remain open and be safely used by members and visiting teams; without completing this work, the clubhouse may eventually become unusable which would decrease opportunity for the community to enjoy and participate in sporting and social activity. With continued use of safe and well-maintained facilities, a recruitment campaign is planned when the new flats being built on Railway Approach in Leamington are completed and occupied. This will offer further sporting and social opportunity to the community.

Engaging and strengthening communities

The club provides an ideal opportunity for older people to develop skills and join in competitive sport. The annual open day and coaching sessions encourage those who have not tried the sport before to have a taste of the sport without cost or need for special equipment as the club will loan appropriate bowls to play. Every match concludes with a social meeting of the rink members for light refreshments and to announce the overall rink scores and winning team. This allows for social interaction with the opposing team where you are not allowed to discuss your match. Friendly matches are generally repeated annually as home and away which encourages good interaction within south Warwickshire. Social membership and darts and crib playing activities bring additional non-bowl playing people from the community together. The clubhouse remains open on Sunday lunch times throughout the year which keeps members in touch during the closed season. The club is also managed and run by a wide range of volunteers from the local community. This all helps to engage and strengthen the community.

Targetting disadvantage in rural / urban areas:

The membership fee is reduced in year one for a new member to encourage them to become members and then stay with the club. The costs of bowling are kept as low as possible by keeping down green fees and having fundraising social events which can be galas, donkey derby, race nights etc. All members are given access to bowls equipment so that they can use the green at their convenience to have a 'roll up' and improve their skills when there are rinks available. Social membership and lower bar prices give accessibility to those on low incomes and pensions. The project will enable installation of cost efficient LED lighting which will further help to keep membership costs as low as possible.

Total cost of scheme (including VAT)

£8,568

Funded by:

Status

Leamington Town Council

£200

Application made, waiting for a decision which is due 17th January 2019

Organisations Own Funds

£1,514

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

Total RUCIS

£6,854

equates to

80.0%