

**RURAL/URBAN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS APPLICATION FOR 3rd OCTOBER 2019 EXECUTIVE :**

**Applicant :** **Whitnash Sports & Social Lawn Bowls Section**

**Description of scheme:** The bowling green ditch edges which surround the actual green require upgrading; the very outer edge of the actual playing area needs to be supported, this is to stop the edges from breaking away when players are standing near the edge. Currently this is achieved by having wooden supports under the grass; these are now rotting and need replacing with concrete edges.

**Evidence of need:** Wooden supports under the grass are rotting and need replacing with concrete edges. In the places where the wood has rotted it has become very unstable and could break away at any time causing players to fall, possibly backwards on to the concrete slabs surrounding the green which is a serious health & safety issue. The project will resolve this issue; it is vital that the facilities are safe for members and visitors to use. The club are also expecting one of the international bowling teams to use their facilities during the Commonwealth Games, they have already had interest from the Australian national team after their match against England in June 2018; a well maintained and safe venue is needed for this.

**3 years accounts received?** 2016 - 2018 accounts have been received along with recent bank statements for all accounts held (1st August 2019); this evidences sufficient cash reserves to meet the contribution stated on the application form.

<b>Financial Performance; minus figure = deficit</b>	<b>Year ended</b>	<b>Year ended</b>	<b>Year ended</b>
	31/12/18	31/12/17	31/12/16
	£1,787	-£824	-£1,387

<b>Available Funds ( cash and reserves )</b>	<b>Year ended</b>	<b>Year ended</b>	<b>Year ended</b>
	31/12/18	31/12/17	31/12/16
	£3,284	£1,471	£2,297

**Details of membership, fees etc:** The lawn bowls section has 60 fully paid up members consisting of men, ladies and juniors with an average membership fee of £75 p.a. Each individual match is covered by a match fee (various match fees depending on the match), the club encourage junior members by charging a very minimal subscription. Membership fees are;

- New members with no bowling experience= free first year
- New members with bowling experience = half price first year of whichever category they fit into
- Over 80 with over 5 year's bowls membership = free
- Over 65 = £75
- Full Adult Membership = £80
- Juniors in full time education = £20 (the club have agreed to reduce this to £10 this year to help encourage young people)

**Details of usage:** The bowling green is used on a daily basis during the months April-October by their own members and also a number of visiting bowling clubs from the surrounding area. Touring sides from around the UK use their facilities, as did the Australian and England international teams last summer. The club currently has a membership of 60 people consisting of men, ladies, boys and girls. Over the course of the season the club would expect at least a minimum of 1,000 different individuals from their own membership and visitors playing a variety of different competitive matches. The club plays friendly matches on virtually every Saturday during the season on a home and away basis this includes men's & ladies matches, they also play a number of mixed friendly games mid-week; these are against other clubs from the area including Coventry and Stratford. The men's team play in two very competitive leagues; one is the Leamington Spa Courier league which is played on a Wednesday afternoon, the other is the Monday 6 Coventry league which is played on a Monday evening. The ladies team play in the Stratford League, also friendly games most Saturdays and some week days. Also through the season the club has its own internal knock out competitions resulting in a full weekend of finals at the end of the season. The club hosted the last 16 mixed County matches on the 4th July 2019.

**Details of Organisations equalities policies:** There is no formal equality policy, however, membership and the facilities are open to the whole community without prejudice and as a club they have Men's, Ladies and Mixed teams.

**3 quotes provided:** Yes

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

**Reduce anti-social behaviour** The bowling green is used on a daily basis during the months April-October by both club members and also visitors from other bowling clubs from the surrounding area. In addition to this, touring sides from around the UK use their facilities, as did the Australian and England international teams last summer. The club currently has a membership of 60 people from across the community consisting of men, ladies, boys and girls; bowling provides an intergenerational opportunity that can be enjoyed by all ages. Over the course of the season the club would expect at least a minimum of 1,000 different individuals from their membership and visitors playing a variety of different competitive matches. The project will resolve current health & safety issues and will ensure that the bowling green facility remains open for use. This all helps to reduce anti-social behaviour.

**Reducing obesity, particularly in children**

The bowling green is used on a daily basis during the months April-October by both club members and also visitors from other bowling clubs from the surrounding area. In addition to this, touring sides from around the UK use their facilities, as did the Australian and England international teams last summer. The club currently has a membership of 60 people from across the community consisting of men, ladies, boys and girls; bowling provides an intergenerational opportunity that can be enjoyed by all ages. Over the course of the season the club would expect at least a minimum of 1,000 different individuals from their membership and visitors playing a variety of different competitive matches. The project will resolve current health & safety issues and will ensure that the bowling green facility remains open for use. This all helps to reduce obesity including within children.

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

The project will resolve current health & safety issues around the bowling green which will ensure that this facility can remain open and be safely used by members and visiting teams. Without completing this work, the bowling green may eventually become unusable which would decrease opportunity for the community to enjoy and participate in sporting and social activity.

**Engaging and strengthening communities**

Lawn Bowls has a great heritage of social etiquette and brings together all walks of life; over the course of the season the club would expect at least a minimum of 1,000 different individuals from their membership and visitors playing a variety of different competitive matches including touring sides from around the UK. 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.

**Total cost of scheme (including VAT where appropriate)**

£7,900 Excluding VAT - will be covered by cash reserves and then claimed back from HMRC

**Funded by:**

**Status**

**Organisations Own Funds - Lawn Bowls Section**

£480 Approved

**Main Whitnash Sports & Social Club**

£1,000 Approved

**Whitnash Town Council**

£100 Awaiting a decision

**Total RUCIS**

**£6,320**

**equates to**

**80.0%**