

RURAL/URBAN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS APPLICATION FOR 18th MARCH 2020 EXECUTIVE :

Applicant :

Lapworth Cricket Club

Description of scheme:

1. An integral part of cricket is to keep an accurate record of the score on a ball by ball basis which traditionally has been done by the club's scorers who are situated in the scoreboard at the cricket ground. As well as recording the information by hand in a scorebook the scorers also operate manually the numerical numbers in the scoreboard which conveys the current score to the players on the field and to the spectators; for many years the club scorer was a key member of the club unfortunately very few clubs now have a dedicated scorer and this task is now undertaken by the players. To actually score the scorebook and maintain the scoreboard is complicated and this task is being undertaken by fewer and fewer people with virtually none of these being the club's Junior players. The club plan is to install onto the existing scoreboard facia an electronic scoreboard which will be operated by a scorer using an computer software application; the information will be input into the computer and this will automatically update the scoreboard therefore eliminating the discrepancies which occur almost every game when done manually. The club believe that with younger people now being very computer savvy this will encourage their Junior players to become efficient scorers for the future therefore safeguarding what is one of the most integral parts of the game of cricket – the score.

2. Lapworth Cricket Club are members of the Cotswold Hills league (CHL), over recent years the CHL Management Committee have been introducing and demanding new standards which member clubs must adhere to, one of these standards is to provide separate changing facilities for the two umpires that are appointed by the CHL to officiate at each CHL game. The club are unable to provide this facility within their existing pavilion; the club plan to purchase a 10ft by 8ft shed made from High Density Polyethylene which they will site adjacent to their pavilion; they will fit the shed out with electrics, plumbing including shower facilities and changing facilities. On match days the changing room will be exclusively for the umpires, but the new facility will also give the club the opportunity on non-match days to use this as a lady's locker room/changing room.

Evidence of need:

- The Club believes that it is essential to embrace new technology to ensure that they continue to attract new members to the club and in particular the younger element of society who are so computer literate from a very early age. The move to an electronic scoreboard would therefore meet this need and the club believe it will ensure that their junior players would be keen to embrace and enjoy scoring the game in the future using this modern technology.
- Umpires changing facilities are now a mandatory requirement within the Cotswold Hills League therefore the club need to provide this facility; failure to do so could result in the club being relegated from the CHL Premier Division which would have massive consequences on the clubs ability to attract new members and impact on the future membership of the Club.

3 years accounts received?

2016 - 2019 accounts have been received along with a recent bank statement for all accounts held (dated 24th January 2020); this evidences sufficient cash reserves to meet the contribution stated on the application form.

Financial Performance; minus figure = deficit

Year ended	Year ended	Year ended	Year ended
31/10/19	31/10/18	31/10/17	31/10/16
£4,390	£5,356	£3,442	£6,131

Available Funds (cash and reserves)

Year ended	Year ended	Year ended	Year ended
31/10/19	31/10/18	31/10/17	31/10/16
£22,990	£14,800	£16,150	£12,085

Details of membership, fees etc:

- Full Member – playing £70pa
- Full Member – non-playing £35pa
- Students – (u21) £35pa
- Junior Member – (u18) £25pa
- Players pay a match fee of £10 per game to cover teas and other costs, Juniors (u18) pay £3 per game

Details of usage:

Lapworth Cricket Club is the only sports club in the village; the club has over 70 playing members and non-playing members:

REGULAR USE

- Saturday 1st XI playing in the Cotswold Hills League (CHL) Premier Division; every week between May and September (12 - 14 players involved each week)
- Saturday 2nd XI playing in the CHL Division 5; every week between May and September (12 - 14 players involved each week)
- Saturday 3rd XI playing in the CHL Division 7; every week between May and September (12 -14 players involved each week)
- Sunday XI playing friendly fixtures against local clubs; every week between April and September (12 - 14 players involved each week)
- Mid-Week XI playing in the Shirley Mid-Week league; weekly between May and August (12 – 13 players involved each week)
- Each of the teams noted above has players from within the local community of all ages ranging between 15 years old and 60 years old
- Club practice night is held every Tuesday evening between April and September (18 – 25 players involved each week)
- The Junior section meets every Friday throughout the season from May to September, they are in the 5 – 8 year old category (15 – 20 children involved each week)

AD-HOC USAGE

- When the ground is not required by the Club it can be hired out to local teams on a Sunday and mid-wee; it is hired out approx. 12 times per season
- Lapworth Guides; approx. 2 activities each year (approx. 20 people attending)
- Lapworth Brownies; approx. 2 activities each year (approx. 25 people attending)
- Members social events such as quiz nights, curry nights, BBQ's are held; approx. 5 events per year (approx. 30 people attending)
- The clubhouse is hired by members of the community for events such as birthday parties, anniversaries, christenings and INFOR, a multi-national company with offices in Solihull, has been hiring the ground to hold a corporate event for the last 8 years; approx. 3 to 4 hiring's per year (approx. number attending can range between 50 to 100 people)

Details of Organisations equalities policies:

LCC Constitution rule 5.1 states "membership of the Club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport on application regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation religion or other beliefs"; a copy of the constitution has been provided.

3 quotes provided:

Yes - 6 quotes in total to cover all aspects of the project works

Which of the Council's Corporate Priorities are met?

Evidence

Reduce anti-social behaviour

Although the project doesn't directly impact on this, without the club there would be no sports activities within the village, currently the club has:

- Four senior teams who play regular competitive matches
- A thriving junior section that meets weekly throughout the season
- Ad-hoc usage by Lapworth Guides and Brownies
- Members social events such as quiz nights, curry nights, BBQ's

The club are keen to increase their membership; in 2019 the club achieved their objective of running a 3rd Saturday XI which plays in D7 of the Cotswold Hills League. This new team is their development team and is primarily made up of young players in the 14 – 17 age bracket.

This all helps to reduce anti-social behaviour.

Reducing obesity, particularly in children

Although our project doesn't directly impact on this, without the club there would be no sports activities within the village, currently the club has:

- Four senior teams who play regular competitive matches
- A thriving junior section that meets weekly throughout the season
- In 2019 the club achieved their objective of running a 3rd Saturday XI which plays in D7 of the Cotswold Hills League; this new team is their development team and is primarily made up of young players in the 14 – 17 age bracket.

This all helps to reduce obesity across all sectors of the community including children.

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

The project will ensure that the club are able to continue to offer all of the activities that are currently available, for example; meet the requirements to remain in the CHL Premier Division and encourage younger players to participate in the scoring process which is vital for matches to be played. Additionally, the project will deliver a changing facility that can be used as a ladies locker room on non-match days which will help the club with their plans to develop a women's soft ball section which will include playing tournaments and add additional usage of the cricket square; this would naturally increase opportunity for the community to enjoy and participate in sports activity.

Engaging and strengthening communities

The club are a focal point of the community and have links with the following community groups:

- WI
- Elderberries
- History Group
- Brownies
- Girl Guides
- Lapworth Players
- Scarecrow Festival
- PTA

The club is managed and run by a wide range of volunteers from the local community and the activities that are available also bring together a wide range of people from the community, for example; competitive cricket teams, social events, Guides and Brownies, Fun Day. The project will create opportunity to create a women's softball team which will also bring people together. This all helps to engage and strengthen the community.

Targetting disadvantage in rural / urban areas:

Although the project doesn't directly impact on this, without the club there would be no sports activities within the village; the club offers sporting facilities to those members and families of the local community who do not have access to their own means of transportation.

- There are no bus services in the village
- The nearest sporting facilities outside of Lapworth are at Hockley Heath where they play football on the recreation ground and you must travel much further afield to Claverdon if you want to participate in rugby
- The nearest cricket clubs to the Melson Memorial Park are Dorridge CC and Rowington CC; neither of these two venues have any public transportation links with Lapworth which is approx. 2 miles from each club both served by very busy roads with little or no pedestrian provision.

Total cost of scheme (including VAT where appropriate) £9,522

Funded by:	Status
Organisations Own Funds	£1,154 Approved

Lapworth Parish Council	£750 Awaiting a decision
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Total RUCIS **£7,618**

equates to **80.0%**