**Hintlesham & Chattisham Community MUGA**

**Research Information Produced By Andrew Bryce 26.05.2016**

**Research Information**

**Quotations**

These are initial quotation with various options. On looking at the feedback on the community survey these can now be more refined. These are rough costs for initial comparison and can be further investigated and negotiated. They all include fencing but on no lighting, I recommend ducting is put in so lights could easily be added in the future if the community requires. The prices are excluding VAT.

**Company Astro/Artificial Grass Tarmac**

Charles Lawrence Tennis Courts £65,000 £50,000

ETC Sports Surfaces £52,000 £40,000

Sports Courts UK £69,000 £50,000

Soft Surfaces £62,000 N/A

**Pitch Sizes**

Recommendations have been for approx. 37m x 15m suitable for multiple sports and good area around the outside of the pitch/court for tennis, etc. The proposed layout should include recessed goals to give maximum space inside the court. The options for basketball hoops needs further investigation as there are various options for this.

It is possible to make a cage/fenced area for storage of goals, tennis posts, nets, etc within the court so they are secure close to hand and help ensure people put thing back in the right place …minimising management time! With the siting it is important to consider good access form the car park with a hard path so it minimises mud getting onto the court.

**Pitch Maintenance**

Subject to the chosen pitch there are different maintenance requirements. There is slightly more with the artificial grass but some of this can be done by the community team and some by professionally

(eg weed control, clearing leaves, re-line spraying, brushing/lifting carpets/top layer, etc).

**Operational Considerations**

A MUGA management team can take care of much of the roles. However it is key to keep the booking system simple and the best way is via an online system. You can block times out for after school activities/run around for the children, etc. This also means by people booking online they can pay there and then and also sign up to the Terms of Use for the court (eg footwear, litter, no alcohol, young children accompanied, etc). A padlock (with changing combination) can be used to secure and give access to the court.

Here is an example of a community pitch being run locally. They are using the website booking fee idea and it gives users live availability and they can pay and book online, minimising management team involvement. http://bealings.ibooka.com/

Ian has looked at the insurance side of things briefly and that should not be a problem to extend (if required) the existing policy.

**Self-Funding Pitch**

There are a number of ways of funding the operation of the pitch and also to have funds for re-lining, re surfacing, etc over time. A few suggestions were put to the community for their preference and input.

A good possible solution is to charge an annual membership fee which gives member access to preferential rates for court hire. There can be special family packages to encourage more people to become members and offer better value. Non-members can still hire the court but at premium rates as a “Pay As You Play” idea, still booked online though.

As an example:

. Annual Subscription for Use (Household £50 / Individual £25 / Non-Local Resident £50)

. Hire Fees (Local £3/hr and Non-Local Resident £9/hr)

. Increased Hire Fees for 5 a-side Football Use

. Higher Rates for Pay as You Play (non subscribers)

. Early bird booking discounts

. Free hire for under 16 between 3.30-6pm

. Fees paid online via booking system – direct debit for annual fees perhaps?

**Revenue Opportunities**

There are opportunities for the community to benefit outside the hire of the court. The village hall can benefit by ore custom for teas, coffees, bar takings, etc. The George pub may see more trade from post sporting activity drinks, after team matches drinks and food, etc.

**Funding**

Babergh Section106

Babergh hold Section 106 funds for the Parish to allocate, it is approx. £15-20k subject to new projects and other uses the Parish have for the funds. Dialogue with the relevant person at Babergh tells us:

. This type of project fits their criteria for use of funds

. Require Evidence of the Parish Council Support

. Require Evidence of support within the wider community:

. Articles in Link

. Responses to Link Article

. Communication from various user groups (school, netball, 5-aside club, etc)

. Questionnaire

. Report from Questionnaire

Babergh Community Grant

Once the Community Council has completed their consultation and decided which quote you are going to accept please get back in touch and we will review any shortfall in funding in order to decide how best to proceed in moving the project forward.

To date you have made really good progress in terms of possible funding and the £20k donation, together with S106 funding and other fundraising you plan to undertake will cover a large proportion of the costs (approximately £60,000). As discussed it is also worth approaching your Parish Council and your County Councillor’s Locality Budget to assist in your fundraising efforts. Your County Councillor’s contact details are as follows: david.busby@suffolk.gov.uk work phone: 01473 311576.

If you consider some free usage of the facility you may find you are eligible for a new funding source from Tesco ‘A Bags for Help Grant’. First place in Tesco customer vote is £12,000, 2nd place is £10,000 and 3rd place is £8,000. The fund is geared towards outside space and the environment and one of the conditions is that the facility is free of charge. More details can be found on the following website: http://www.groundwork.org.uk/Sites/tescocommunityscheme I hope the above information is useful to you and I look forward to engaging with you further to progress the project. Regards Gillian Hilder Communities Officer (Grants)

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils - Working Together

01449 724631 gillian.hilder@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk

**Other Grant funding**

There are several other grants to look at including Sport England, Lottery as well as some of the land fill sites which have funding for local community projects. T could well be worth liaising with a big firm like Celotex who have a big impact on our community and see if thy will sponsor/donate towards the project.

**Possible Next Steps:**

. Thoughts of this committee and guests .

. Wider feedback and opinions:

. Piece in Village Link .

. Feedback Survey – electronic / hard copy .

. Pull together Parish Council Project Team

. Further Research and Feasibility:

. Visit existing Village MUGA’s in use (perhaps Bealings Village)

. Research Start Up Costs

. Research annual maintenance fees

. Section 106 funds use decisions by Parish Council and move forwards

. Grants and other funding further investigations

. Lots more…