

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Record of Urgent Decision taken under Delegation for Urgent business – scheme of Delegations

Subject: Contribution of funding for an Astro Turf Pitch at Bromsgrove Cricket, Tennis and Hockey Club.

Brief Statement of Subject Matter:

A contribution of £50,000 from section 106 funds is sought towards an astro turf pitch at Bromsgrove Cricket, Tennis and Hockey Club.

This funding along with the following contributions will allow the club to apply to Sport England for sufficient funds (£300,000 in total) for the provision of a new sand based astro turf pitch at a total cost of £618,000 inclusive of all fees and access requirements.

The following funding providers are confirmed:

1. England Hockey £170,000 subject to successfully Sport England application.
2. National Hockey Foundation £50,000
3. Club Members fundraising and loans £29,000
4. Local Businesses £10,000
5. Redrow Builders £10,000 contribution in kind (power supply installed)

The funding criteria in place with Sport England requires a match funding contribution of at least 25% of the total cost of the project. However in previous funding rounds projects that have not shown match funding in the region of 50% have failed to be successful. Furthermore, advice from within Sport England has indicated that they see Local Authority contributions as being key within the overall funding package, as this gives confidence that the project has true local support and is based upon robust data and strategic need.

With the addition of the Council's funding allocation the secured funds will stand at 51.6% of the total project costs. As such, Council's contribution is vital to help secure this this much needed funding and asset within Bromsgrove.

Currently the club does not have all weather facilities and trains and plays its home games away from the club at a variety of locations inside and outside of Bromsgrove District.

This limits the sustainability of the club in the longer, both from a financially perspective but also and perhaps more importantly from a participation and player pathway perspective as its ability to attract and retain players is limited.

The club is excellent, having won national awards in the past 18 months for its coaching programmes and step back into campaigns, where the club take currently inactive former hockey players (and many other sports as well) and reintroduces them back into physical activity through a more social based game.

The application to Sport England supports the strategic need for these type of facilities as highlighted in the Council current playing pitch strategy and the draft revised version (which will be launched in late Summer), local consultation with sports clubs, feedback from Sport England

through the facility planning model for ATP's and is supported by English Hockey the National Governing Body (NGB) who view the club as a priority for investment.

It is proposed that any funding allocated by the Council is subject to the following conditions/clauses to ensure the section 106 funding is used effectively and ensures the availability of the services to all and that the clubs growth plans can be sustained :

1. An appropriate funding agreement being signed by the club and the Council that will ensure that:
 - Community access arrangements are in place and enforceable,
 - Fees reflect local market conditions and remain affordable,
 - BDC's development team receive space allocations within the holiday and after school spaces periods,
 - Dispute resolution clauses are included that give BDC the ability to claw back funding for none performance.
2. The funds to be available for a maximum duration of 18 months from the date of decision.
3. The BDC's funding offer will be conditional upon a successful Sport England submission to match that of the NGB and can't be drawn down until official confirmation of the Sport England offer is received.
4. A set of measures is agreed within the funding agreement and that these details are provided to BDC on a quarterly basis and subject to annual review to agree performance improvement as appropriate.
5. That the funding will be conditional upon the project being completed to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority and that all planning conditions are discharged appropriately.
6. That BDC receive due regard within publicity material produced, that in at least 2 locations BDC's contribution is acknowledged and that invitations are extended for the opening of the facility to the Council's Chairman, Leader and Portfolio Holder.

Decision:

That the Chief Executive under the delegation for urgent business agrees to make the following decisions:-

- 1) That £50,000 towards the cost of an AstroTurf Pitch be granted from S106 funds to Bromsgrove Cricket, Tennis and Hockey Club;**
- 2) That the partnership contribution is available for 18 months from the date of this decision and is subject to an agreement between the Club and the Council;**
- 3) That the funding offer is conditional upon the Sport England submission being successful;**
- 4) That the Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services be authorised to produce the necessary documentation, following consultation with the Head of Leisure and Cultural Services.**

Grounds for Urgency:

The deadline for the Club's application to Sport England is 12th March so it needs to know whether the Council agrees to its contribution by that date in order to progress the application.

The details of the application were not known in time to seek Council's agreement at its meeting on 26th February and the next Council meeting is after the deadline for the grant application.

Procedural Matters:


The authority for the Chief Executive to decide these matters is found in the Constitution Part 3 Part D (page 11) – delegation to the Chief Executive to determine matters of such urgency that formal reporting to Council is not possible. Delegation to be exercised by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader, section 151 officer and the Monitoring Officer.

Certificate of Consultation

I certify that I have been consulted with and approve the urgent decision set out above.



.....
Chief Executive/ Executive Director


.....
Dated

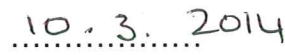

.....
Section 151 officer


.....
Dated


.....
Leader


.....
Dated


.....
Monitoring Officer


.....
Dated