

TRUSTEE BOARD OF THE GILSTRAP AND WILLIAM EDWARD KNIGHT CHARITIES

2 OCTOBER 2020

NEWARK R&M CRICKET CLUB PROJECT – UPDATE REPORT

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To provide an update on progress made by Newark R&M Cricket Club in respect of their Ground Development Project and to consider a request for additional funding.

2.0 Background Information

- 2.1 The Board will be aware that the redevelopment of the former RHP Sports & Social Ground resulted in the loss of the cricket pitch. In order to satisfy Sport England's Planning Policy requirements it was agreed to provide a replacement pitch in a timely manner to mitigate this loss.
- 2.2 The District Council has been working in partnership with Newark R&M Cricket Club, the English Cricket Board (ECB) and Newark Town Council to develop a phased scheme, which would deliver the replacement pitch and associated infrastructure at the Club's Kelham Road site.
- 2.3 Phase 1 of the project is complete and phase 2 involves the provision of new changing rooms. The changing rooms have been designed in accordance with the technical requirements of the ECB in order to ensure that they are compliant with the minimum standards required by the ECB.
- 2.4 In terms of funding Phase 2 of the project, the Trustee Board has previously approved grant funding of £100,000 towards this from the WE Knight Charity. The rest of the funds required to deliver Phase 2 is made up of a mix of funding from Newark Town Council, the ECB and other funding partners.

3.0 Update on Project

- 3.1 The Cricket Club has recently written to the Board giving an update on their progress in delivering the ground development project and a copy of this letter is attached as **Appendix A** to this report.
- 3.2 The Club has made significant progress in completing the associated ground investigation and engineering works in order to achieve a design plan for the changing rooms building that overcomes some of the unique features of the land, including its high flood risk. However, their planning application was unsuccessful in February because the building's access does not provide a step free inclusive access and therefore does not meet accessibility requirements.
- 3.3 In order to overcome this issue the Club is proposing to amend the design to include the installation of a lift on the front external stairs and reconfigure the internal access to both sides of the building. The cost of these amendments is an additional £13,134 (incl. VAT).

4.0 Request for Further Funding

- 4.1 The additional cost of installing a lift to the changing rooms building exceeds the current budget that the Cricket Club has available to it. The Club has therefore requested the Board of Trustees to consider whether it would be prepared and able to increase its grant funding from the W E Knight Trust funds.
- 4.2 As will be seen from paragraph 5 of this report, in the Financial Comments section, the Trust has available to it sufficient funds if the Board wished to grant the Cricket Club's request.

5.0 Financial Comments

- 5.1 On 9 October 2018 the Board of the Trustees reaffirmed their commitment to make a financial contribution of £100,000 from the reserves of the W E Trust towards Phase 2 of the project. A further progress report on 3 October 2019 requested an advancement of £5,000, which has been paid, therefore this leave a current committed financial contribution of £95,000 toward the Cricket Club project.
- 5.2 The current draft statement of accounts for WE Knight has a total unallocated reserve balance of £38,956.65, therefore sufficient funds are available if the Board decide to grant the additional request of £13,134. If the request is granted this will then leave the balance of unallocated reserve at £25,819.65.

4.0 RECOMMENDATION

That the Board note the update regarding the Newark R&M Cricket Club project and consider their request for further funding towards the installation of a lift for the changing room building.

Background Papers

None

For further information please contact Karen White on extension 5240.

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