

Slingsby Sport for All Project Update – 5th March 2024

Overview

As many of you will know our original project plan was based on receiving a grant for £166,961.09 from The Community Infrastructure Levy Grant scheme which was administered by Ryedale District Council.

Despite being allocated the full amount of our funds, the scheme required ratification from North Yorkshire Council who decided that, as the scheme was not one which they had approved, they would not be honouring the decision that was made by Ryedale District Council prior to the merger into North Yorkshire Council. This was obviously an incredible blow to the project.

Nonetheless, we have continued to work tirelessly in order to deliver the ambitious project that will make a huge difference to our community.

We have applied for a wide range of different grants in order to raise the funds for the completion of the project.

However, rather than wait to have the entirety of the funds in place before starting the project, we have decided to deliver the project in three phases which are detailed below.

Phase 1 – commencing immediately

The first phase is the delivery of improvements to the sporting facilities and improved outdoor seating, including wheelchair accessible picnic tables.

The total cost of this phase of the project is expected to be £19,215.10

The planned timeframes for the delivery of this phase of the project are as follows:

1. **Purchase of the Sports Coaching Equipment (including practice football goals and coaching packs for football and cricket). Timeframe - Immediately**
 - a. The majority of the equipment has been purchased and collected.
 - b. This will now be available for use.
2. **New scoreboard/hub shed – Timeframe - this has been ordered and will be delivered w/c 4th March**
 - a. A working party is meeting to assemble this on Saturday 9th March at 10am. If anybody is free to help out please let us know.
3. **Electronic Scoreboard – Timeframe - this will be early April**
 - a. Once purchased and delivered this will be tested and any issues regarding electricity supply will be addressed.
4. **Artificial Cricket Wicket – Timeframe - target date Thursday 2nd May**
 - a. This has been ordered and there is an 8 to 10 week lead time but we are hopeful that it will be in place for a practice session prior to the first game of the cricket season on Friday 10th May.
5. **Mobile Cricket Net – Timeframe - target date w/c 22nd April**
 - a. It is planned to wait until improvements in weather conditions before purchasing this piece of equipment but the aim is to have it in place prior to the installation of the new artificial cricket wicket.

6. Outdoor furniture – Timeframe - target in use date – Monday 6th May (May Day)

- a. The price has been fixed in place with the supplier and they have agreed to store the furniture until we are ready to collect. An unveiling of the new outdoor furniture is planned for during the car boot sale on Bank Holiday Monday (May Day) with those who have donated towards the cost of the furniture invited to attend.

Funding for Phase one

The costs of the delivery of Phase One of the Project have been met through a combination of existing funds raised during the initial phase of fundraising for The Sport for All Project and additional grants that have been applied for from Councillor Steve Mason and North Yorkshire Council's Ryedale Community Grants Programme.

Phase 2

The second phase of the project is the extension of the club to add improved changing rooms and showers, disabled toilet facilities, improved social space and better kitchen facilities.

This is clearly a greater challenge than delivery of phase one due to the need to raise additional funds to cover the costs.

Our current operating assumption is that the total cost to deliver Phase two of the project is £173,089.60 which is broken down as follows:

- Extension to existing club to create disability friendly facilities and appropriate changing facilities for junior sport - £168,000
- Improvements to catering facilities - £5089.60

The costs of the extension could be mitigated through the use of volunteer working parties to support the contractor and carry out a number of the tasks required with the build. Extensive efforts and negotiations with building material suppliers could also help to mitigate costs.

Timeframes for phase 2

The timeframe associated with the delivery of this Phase of the Project is entirely dependent upon the successful completion of a number of grant applications to fund the project.

Funding for phase 2

We currently have the a range of grant applications in various stages of application from a variety of sources including the North Yorkshire Sport Rural Capital Fund and The Football Foundation. Along with the funds previously raised through our fundraising campaign we remain hopeful of securing the funding that we need in order to get this phase completed in 2024.

Phase 3

The third phase of the project, which is currently on hold is the installation of solar panels and battery storage as a renewable energy system to make the club more sustainable and ecologically friendly.

It is possible that future grant opportunities may become available to support the funding of this phase of the project.

Summary

We have clearly achieved a lot already and it is exciting to be getting close to delivering the first phase of the project will be a tangible demonstration of the work that has been put in.

There is still a lot of work to be done to secure the remainder of the funds we need and then deliver on the extension but I am extremely confident that we will get there in 2024!

I would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who continues to put in a huge amount of work as we move forward but I would like to particularly pay tribute to Kate Giles who has worked tirelessly in identifying and applying for different grant opportunities. It is an incredibly time consuming process and I know I speak for everyone connected with this project when I offer my sincere thanks to Kate!

We will continue to keep our community updated with progress over the coming months.

Paul Hogarth (Chairman, Slingsby Sports and Social Club)