

## **Appendix E.**

### **Background or 'Project Specifics' – Application MF014/T2**

To completely refurbish and convert an area currently laid out as four tennis courts in Vivian Park, Sandfields East.

This bid has been developed to 'Enhance Existing Council Services' and will be part of a more complex project requiring an input from the PDFU.

The funding will be used to convert one of the underutilised tennis courts to a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA), to resurface 2,080 square metres of hard standing, to provide new sockets for three tennis courts, to re-mark the area dedicated to the MUGA and the three tennis courts and to completely enclose with new perimeter fencing with two pedestrian access gates.

New installations will include a 13.7 x 30.56 m MUGA complete with two robust play end walls containing recessed football goals, basketball hoops and cricket wickets. The MUGA will be marked out for netball, football and basketball. The whole of the MUGA and tennis area will receive a 20mm overlay of 6mm regulating tack coat of tarmac and emulsion. Sockets, tennis nets with vinyl headbands, ground anchors and posts will be provided as part of the project and this will ensure that the Courts are brought back into use. Adjacent trees overhanging the area intended for the MUGA will be crown lifted to reduce shade and the growth of moss on the new playing surface. The existing 190 linear metres of fence line, which is rusted and punctured with gaping holes, will be renewed with 3 metre high Duex 868 fencing. The new installation will receive a Post Installation Inspection by an independent Service Engineer to ensure all work is safe and fit for purpose before inviting public use.

The need for this initiative has come to the attention of the local Ward Members. Since the leasing of the adjacent playing fields there has been less provision for casual ball games with young people using the grassed areas near the flower beds or accessing the leased fields without permission. The tennis courts have fallen into a state of disrepair and are sub-standard. Those that are keen to play tennis

improvise with their own 'nets' or play with no nets. This can be remedied by providing a bespoke, fit for purpose facility.

Vivian Park is the receiving centre for many leisure based activities in Sandfields East. With this investment this area within the Park will be revitalised boasting pristine facilities that will be avidly consumed by a wide range of residents. The proposal will reduce anti-social behaviour by offering a dedicated attractive space for informal ball sports. This in turn will boost levels of physical activity, elevate participation and improve well-being. Success with this project could potentially spawn a new Tennis Club building upon the 'Come & Try' initiatives that have already been piloted by PASS. This project will offer the most generous arrangements for public enjoyment and instil pride in place giving local people a greater sense of worth.

The scheme has no further financial implications for NPTCBC as it comes within the existing maintenance, litter picking and inspection regime of 'Street Scene' and Environmental Services. There will be less maintenance in the short term with new play equipment manufactured in accordance with BS EN 1176 -all components benefiting from 5 and 10 year warranties on structural failure.

The setting out and taking in of the tennis posts, nets, etc. is a management control issue that will need to be further investigated.

## **Recommendations**

The project is valued at £104,385.52, which is the full cost of procuring and installing all of the equipment and carrying out the tree surgery. The Applicants, Councillors E.V Latham, Sean Pursey and Mathew Crowley would wish to fund this project with Councillor Latham and Crowley each contributing £9,310.26 from their Members Fund allocation and Councillor Pursey contributing the whole of his Members Fund allocation for the Ward of Sandfields East. The funding package is completed with a £75,765.00 contribution from a Section 106 Unilateral Undertaking associated with a housing development at Bevin Avenue and Planning Development Control have consented this investment as 'pitch/non – pitch' provision.

The project proposal is recommended for approval and financial support under the Members Community Fund.