

Appendix H.

Background or 'Project Specifics' – Application MF017/T2

To acquire essential grounds maintenance equipment for Tonmawr RFC in Pelenna.

This bid has been developed to 'Assist Voluntary Sector providers' building upon the goodwill and time invested by a small loyal band of volunteers.

The funding will be used to purchase two Brush cutters, a leaf blower and a precision line wheel marker.

The new acquisitions will help the Club keep grounds maintenance costs low and avoid the need to arrange for expensive hiring in of equipment or the loaning of equipment. Areas within the Whitworth Ground site are inaccessible to the ride- on mower and often tall grass is left unkempt. There is a need to ensure spectator safety by removing grass clippings from hard standing after mowing, as surfaces become slippery when wet. The state-of-the-art light weight, hard wearing wheeled line marker will ensure that pitch markings are concise and clear adding to the enjoyment of the players and the referee.

The need for this initiative has come to the attention of the local Ward Member. The Club will be able to boast its own arsenal of pitch care equipment and in the long term this will reduce the annual grounds maintenance budget helping to relieve financial pressures on the Organisation.

Tonmawr RFC and the Whitworth Ground are the hub of the community. Currently the Club has teams at U/7s, U/10s, U/11s, U/12s, U/16s, a Developmental XV and a 1st Team. The Club is working with 'Insport' to deliver a Disability Sports programme and has achieved 'Insport's 'Bronze Standard'. The Pelenna Male Voice Choir, Neath U11s &U15s Schoolboys, Ospreys Schools Tournament, the Mother & Toddler Group and local fetes all depend on the community playing field and the Rugby Club for facilities.

The scheme has no further financial implications for NPTCBC. The equipment has extended warranties attaching to it and the Club's

resident Head Groundsman is also an engineer capable of servicing the machines. Equipment will be securely stored and insured.

Recommendations

The project is valued at £2,302.37, which is the full cost of procuring the equipment. The VAT element of £383.72 is recoverable by the Club and does not feature as part of the bid. The Applicant, Councillor Jeremy Hurley would wish to fund this project, to the tune of £1,918.64, with a proportion of his Members Fund allocation.

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