

3g all-sports working group

16th May 2023

7:30pm at SPC offices

Minutes

Present / introductions: Cllr Arger, Caroline McRoyall (CSLL) Lee Seal (SMYFC), Jeff Davis (Kent FA), Lee Suter Football Foundation) Louise Brice (Resident) Nicola Stonebridge (SMFC) and Richard Griffiths Parish Clerk

1. Election of Chairman

Following a debate RG proposed and Cllr Arger seconded Louise Brice to be Chairman – agreed unanimously

Following a debate it was agreed that Jeff Davis (Kent FA), Lee Seal (SMYFC), Nicola Stonebridge (SMFC) and Mike Evans (MBC) to be members of the group – agreed unanimously

Note Lee Suter and Caroline McRoyall will attend as required.

2. Apologies

Cllr McLaughlin, Cllr Riordan, Cllr Sharp and Mike Evans

3. Declarations of Interest - Na

4. **Minutes of previous meeting** – the minutes of the 25th April 2023 were agreed majority 4 for 0 against and 4 abstained

Note Rob Jarman (Planning Development Manager MBC) confirmed £210,616.98 of S106 developer funding to be ringfenced for the project – email 2nd May 2023
Kent County Sports – Potential Grant £10,000, once planning permission obtained
Also potential Crowd funding – lead by clubs (do they need to be a charity??)
RG explore further see below link
[Crowdfund Kent - Kent County Council](#)

5. Football Foundation Update Report

Lee Suter led the discussion

- **Site Inspection report – issues**

Obviously Weald Clay and drainage on the site is an issue
Main Drain – requirement for an easement – may be better to move pitch Northwards as this can take a long time for permission regarding easements
Need to clarify SECFL ruling on adjacent pitches

Need to finalise location of 3G and the grass pitches around them – do not want to lose another grass pitch if possible

(Ross Andrews to review and bring back location of pitch – ASAP – to be agreed)

It would be great do this by end of May so it can go to Parish Council 5th June 2023

- **Next steps**

Once location confirmed

Football Foundation to use “Framework” to tender

Make recommendation July / August 2023

Council will need to approve – provide “written authorisation” – this is a commitment to the project

Followed by “Kick off” meeting with all partners (should this include MBC / KCC in pre-application meeting)

At same time start consultation programme – see below

Finalise design

Aim to submit planning application autumn 2023

At same time work on developing business plan from now until submission – (CR lead)

- **Realistic timetable**

Subject to planning aim for bid submission January 2024

Football Foundation decision – Spring 2024

Contractors on site summer 2024

Open autumn 2024

Maybe – pushed back if planning takes time

- **Council costs**

Council committed £10,000 and appointed CSLL

Some underspend from last year – consider allocation of Parish Council reserves and report to 5th June 2023. Potential planning fees £10,000 and Legal Charge £2,000.

Lee Suter confirmed no other costs anticipated

6. Bid Consultant

CR introduced herself and her focus will be on;

- Supporting consultation – questionnaire for stakeholders / general public questionnaire
- Supporting fund raising – research / links to other similar projects
- Supporting the business plan
- Finalising Football Foundation submission

7. Publicity / Consultation / Fund raising – discuss

Publicity / consultation - General public already know about the project but not detail

- launch at “Football club presentation day” 21st May 2023 – RG / LB posters for noticeboards **(Note email on 17.5.23 requested to defer)**
- Information on Council website – social media direct to website – after Council meeting 5th June 2023 (subject to approval)

- Aim for stakeholder meeting – July 2023 (users, potential users, community groups and local business)
- Family Funday 2nd August 2023, Surrenden Field, last year 400 attended – Aim for a stall / gazebo – will need leaflets, noticeboards, staffing etc
- September 2023 – presentation to general public (include contractor?)

Fund raising

Important Parish Council “should” cover any professional fees, legal costs (consider from reserves) so that club / community fund raising focuses on the actual 3G all-sports pitch itself

See attached “Fund raising working spreadsheet” – update next meeting

8. Some general questions

NS – Why should the football clubs do fund raising?

Lee Sutter as a partner in the project there will be a need to be Service Level Agreement signed off by Clubs, Council and Football Foundation which will include priority bookings and discounted rates

NS – If 3g pitch moved northwards – could lose another grass pitch?

Aim is not to lose an extra grass pitch – Sport England statutory consultee.

Important factor in design of site

LS – concern about match fees on the 3G pitch?

This will be part of developing the business plan and feed into SLA.

LS – Impact of 3g on the remaining grass pitches?

Part of the design process – involve groundsman in “kick off meeting” local knowledge vital

LS – Concern about impact of 3g on access / maintenance of remaining pitches?

Part of the design process – involve groundsman in “kick off meeting” local knowledge vital

NS – Concern about car parking

Lee Suter if planning condition then can include in Football Foundation project costs. Also about general feel of site

NS – Security an issue in rural isolated site

All agreed an issue

Louise Brice concluded obviously we need to work through these together as a team CR to pull together a spreadsheet / action plan / GANT chart to help the team stay on track

Option of hybrid meetings

9. Next meeting

Aim for either 20th June 2023 – 7:30pm at SPC offices - TBC