Stapleford Community Sports Liaison Working Group

Zoom meeting 1.7.20 at 7pm

Present – Paul McPhater, Erica Dawe, Jon West, John Tweedale, Tim Harrison. Apologies – Natalie Quinnell

Clubspark – Tim has led on this. Haslingfield Tennis Club use it. Stapleford Tennis Club were keen on it before the MUGA project began. PIN access gate is available. Conclusion – Group generally positive about Clubspark. Actions – Tim to investigate annual fees to use Clubspark and to look at their services in detail. Paul and Erica to discuss the concept generally. STC currently uses ClubSpark for subscriptions and membership plans. They freely use this as a benefit of LTA membership. Booking courts can easily be added, and the TC will need to look into whether the ClubSpark free use extends to MUGA’s, which would be a saving for the PC. Action – Erica to check restrictions, if any, on free use given by LTA.

Netball – Natalie has information on how Cambridge City Council has a service that can increase awareness and participation in netball. Conclusion – generally positive plan. Action – Natalie to facilitate communication with City Council re netball.

Coaching – For any sport on the MUGA, coaching needs a trained first aider. Conclusion – access to a first aid kit is required of a coach but PC may look to have one permanently stationed. Action – add to the project list (Paul)

Site visit – Muswell Hill. Conclusion – 6pm 2.7.20. Action - Paul John and Tim to visit. Paul to report back to Parish Council on July 8th.

Reach out to Tennis and Football clubs – Conclusion and Action – Paul plans to do this

Firm A interview of references. Conclusion – neither were end users of the MUGA and both were working on the project only as agent/middleman. Action – Paul to talk to a facilities user re Firm A.

Security – Fence specification. Conclusion – This is a robust fence but anything can be breached. Action – Paul is checking price for increase from 3m to 4m height.

Damage Insurance – Funded by Parish Council. Conclusion – needs to be in place. Action – Paul to ensure insurance is organised by PC Clerk.

Courts layout – There was a general discussion of advantages and disadvantages. Conclusion – at present there will be 2 tennis courts. One will have netball and one will have football overmarking. A single hoop basketball area at one end. Football goals are flat on the fence. Action – await mark-up diagram from installers to show exactly how this would look.

Basketball – Conclusion that someone needs to look at how to increase awareness and participation in basketball. This is a non-critical path undertaking. Action – put on the ideas list (Paul)

Organised clubs – Existing clubs need to invest to make the MUGA project work. Each have traditions of activity on certain days. Conclusion – clubs need to be encouraged. Action – look at using the second court for a second sport on the day.

Stapleford Messenger – article by Jon West in July edition. Conclusion – good article. Consider updates in future editions. Action – Jon to do.

Tennis club questionnaire – club are collating it. Conclusion – may not be ready for 7th July Parish Council meeting. Action – Erica to facilitate sharing it.

Paying for electricity – Options include evening users paying for light or spreading the cost between all users. Conclusion – needs to be cashless. Tokens or card-swipe or online payment. Link to a timer in Pavilion or outbuilding. Clubspark pricing may provide an answer. Action – needs to stay on the to do list with discussion with clubs/users. Paul to do.

Gate size – relevant to price. Conclusion – needs to be appropriate for maintenance access and disabled users. Must be compatible with Clubspark if chosen as our participation technology. Action – ongoing discussion during site visit and with firms.

Pricing for users – Tim fed back £50 per hr cost of 3G football pitch in wealthy suburbs. Conclusion – use will be price sensitive. PC does not need to operate this at such costs, indeed will look to have considerably smaller charges. Focus is on participation. Action – keep on the to do list (Paul)

Net and netball facilities changeover – question raised before the meeting by Erica who was keen to know how the schedule of changing the facility for different sports is addressed. Conclusion – answered in general discussion that there will be a hiatus between project approval and onset of works (i.e. where there are gaps in the task burden). Caretaker to be involved. Action – stay on the to do list (Paul).

Review usage of MUGA. Adjust facility provision every 3-5 years. Conclusion – may need to be annually to see how Netball, Basketball and Football usage changes over time. Action – keep on the list (Paul)

General discussion without outcomes – Section 106 monies need to be spent and the MUGA needs to fit with other possible projects. Additional phases of sports development in the future with building on a generic plan year by year. Pathway from pavilion to MUGA. Outdoor toilets. Types of football usage.

Paul to present current plan status to Parish Council meeting July 8th

Brief discussion on Social Media posts: ensuring these are respectful, courteous and mindful that everyone has good intentions. The intention is to ensure transparency at all times with regards to progress.

Next Community Sports Liaison Working Group meeting – halfway between Parish Council meetings. To be decided.