

Avebury Sportsfield Committee
Avebury Sports & Social Club
("ASSC")
Beckhampton Road
Avebury, Marlborough,
Wilts
SN8 1QZ

Miss Liz Moore
Clerk to Avebury Parish Council
c/o
6 Rhyls Cottages
Lockeridge
Marborough
Wiltshire
SN8 4EE

Dear Ms Moore,

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE – AVEBURY SPORTS PAVILION

ASSC is raising funds to replace the existing sports pavilion on the Avebury sports field with a new, fit-for-purpose facility that promises to be a fantastic community asset for decades to come.

We are looking to raise an initial £73,000 to fund the building works, utilities connections, roofing work and associated drainage. At the time of writing we have raised £32,200, with a number of fund-raising initiatives still ongoing.

Within ASSC, the project is being led by the sub-committee responsible for the sports field (the "Avebury Sportsfield Committee" or "ASC"!), comprising Lynzey Paradise, Mike Bedford, Stephen Stacey, Maggie Lewis, Bruce Crook, Alan Blake, Diane Gater, and Dominic Fry.

We would like to request a contribution from Avebury Parish Council ("APC") to allow us to keep pace with our fund-raising targets; to commission the foundations, groundworks and archaeological oversight in December and January; and to remain on track with our goal of having the new building arriving on site for construction in mid-February 2019.

We hope that the background to and reasons for the project, as well as the benefits to the Parish, are already well understood by the Parish Council, but for reference and clarity have set out some of the highlights in this letter.

Importantly, we think that funding from the Parish Council would be consistent with the spirit of the agreement entered in to between APC and ASSC in April 2018, and consistent with our mutual objectives to provide excellent facilities for both parishioners and the wider community.

Sadly, we have not received a positive response from the National Trust (our landlord, and the legal owners of the field and the existing building) to our request for any assistance towards funding this project.

Background to the Project

The existing sports pavilion is a temporary building erected nearly 100 years ago, which has come to the end of its useful life. As APC knows only too well from reports from ACSReC, we have spent many thousands of pounds annually maintaining a building which we believe now has, on balance, too many issues to rectify. In addition, the size and layout of the changing facilities (and absence of showering facilities) mean that we no longer meet Sport England, ECB and FA guidelines on changing rooms and other facilities.

In short, we need a new community building which will be suitable both for teams or groups wanting to play sport on the field; and for anyone wishing to organize community activities on the sports field at Avebury.

We were fortunate to receive planning consent for the building on 13 November 2018, subject only to certain archaeological oversight conditions and to the demolition of the existing building *before* the new building is fully operational.

In terms of process, we have now engaged a Groundworker, Archaeologist, Building Control Consultant and Building Contractor. We expect to be in a legal (though not financial) position to commence foundation and other works within the coming weeks, once our Building Control Consultant has received approval from the local authority to oversee the project. In addition, with the proceeds raised to date we have been able to place a deposit with our Building Contractor, Passmores, for the building itself.

Funding Sources

Funds raised to date have come from proceeds from our Auctions of Promises in 2017 and 2018; from Avebury Cricket Club; and from private donations from residents of the Parish. We are also seeking funds from The Big Lottery; the Marlborough Area Board; the ECB; and a number of other local charities and foundations.

Critically, many funding bodies limit their funding only to projects that are more than 50% funded or which require less than £20,000 to complete – hence a strong desire on our part to secure a meaningful commitment from the Parish Council as soon as possible.

Principal Beneficiaries, and How we will Monitor Success of the Project

We have set out below a few paragraphs on how we believe this project benefits the wider community; and how we will monitor and track the success of our project. These benefits are at the heart of many of the funding applications that we have lodged with other organizations, and we believe that they are also relevant for APC in considering the merits of our request.

Children and Young People

- Children and young people in the Parish are obviously the key beneficiaries of this project. Once the facility is up and running we will very easily be able to track growth in Junior membership numbers across all clubs using the sports field, as well as tracking new youth and children's event bookings from the local area.

Countryside, Environment and Nature

- We believe that the design and appearance of the building will enhance the sports field, and that the materials used in construction show sensitivity to the wider environment. The building's

location is sensitively chosen, away from the root protection zones of trees bordering the field. The building is not expected materially to increase traffic to or from the site, or to or from the village in general, given that it simply replaces an existing facility.

Safer Communities

- The new facility will be safer, and compliant with modern building standards. We will be able to monitor the benefit of the new building by reference to a reduction in health and safety risks compared with the old building, through the maintenance of risk registers and monitoring of any accidents in and around the new building.

Sport, Play and Recreation

- We will be able to monitor the benefit of the facility by reference to an overall expected increase in the use of the sports field for sporting and other recreational activities. The required data for this can now be delivered through our online bookings facilities where such data can be stored and subsequently reviewed.

Health Lifestyle and Wellbeing

- The new facility will encourage participation in sport and outdoor activities in the area across all age groups, from the very young, through to the older generations looking to get back in to sport and exercise. We will be able to monitor the benefit of the facility by reference to the number of sports and training activities run over the course of the year and the number of local users frequenting the facility across the Winter and Summer seasons.

Cost Savings and Efficiency

- We will be able to monitor the costs of running and maintaining the new sports pavilion against the significant costs that have been incurred annually over the last 5-10 years in maintaining the facility. We expect to make savings not just on large one-off repairs such as roof damage, rainwater ingress damage and removal of black mould, but also on energy efficiency savings around lighting, heating, water useage (absence of leaks) and reduced cleaning costs.

Conclusion and Next Steps

We are thrilled to have had the support of APC at the planning and development stage of the project, alongside 17 other letters of support from locals. We would be very grateful if APC could support the capital cost of this project given its importance to the community.

We are very happy to attend meetings of APC to answer any questions about the project, and would be delighted to include members of APC in our regular briefings.

With thanks on behalf of everyone at ASSC,



Dominic Fry

Chairman, Avebury Sports & Social Club