



MEETING PAPER

Meeting: Finance and Governance

Date: 10th December 2024

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~/NON-CONFIDENTIAL

Details

This paper is written by the Sports Development Officer Ewan.

This paper is regarding the 'Grass Maintenance Fund' from the Football Foundation. I have been working closely with Matt Stebbings from Suffolk FA over the past few months to see what improvements/grants we can access to improve the facilities/sporting offer at Normanston Park. One of these funds which we can access is the 'Grass Maintenance Fund' which is a fund that helps improve the playing pitches.

Currently we have two pitches at Normanston park which are heavily used. We have four Saturday teams and two Sunday teams. Therefore, this means we have approximately 120 people using the pitches every weekend. In addition, with the proposed works for the changing rooms and public toilets at Normanston Park, I will also be looking at ways which we can encourage/get more participation at Normanston Park, potentially looking at Women's/Girls teams playing down there. With all this said, this is the justification for accessing this funding so we can ensure the pitches can withstand increased usage and they are improved to provide a better playing surface. One thing to note is that the current pitches become waterlogged very easily, therefore, decreasing the likelihood of this will allow for increased use during the wetter months

Currently we spend approximately £1500 a year not including the line marking and grass cutting. This money is normally spent through overseeding and goal mouth repairs at the end of the season. Our total contribution across 6 years for the grass maintenance fund would be £10,666, which is only £1666 more than what we would spend normally. The Football Foundation would contribute £21,334 across the 6 years. Please see the breakdown of costs.

Grant Details Total

YEAR NO	MAINTENANCE COST NO VAT	OUR CONTRIBUTION NO VAT	YOUR CONTRIBUTION NO V...
Year 1	5,332	5332	0
Year 2	5,332	5332	0
Year 3	5,332	3556	1,778
Year 4	5,332	3556	1,778
Year 5	5,332	1778	3,556
Year 6	5,332	1778	3,556
Total	32,000	21334	10,666

The fund can only be spent on actual pitch maintenance and not grass cutting or line marking. As you can see we do not fund anything year 1 and 2. Then 33% year 3 and 4. Then 66% year 5 and 6.

Recommendations/Decision

A decision needs to be on whether LTC are happy to commit to the six-year 'Grass Maintenance Fund' which would involve a contribution of £10,666 across 6 years.