Clwb Criced Parc Gwersyllt

Gwersyllt Park Cricket Club

Business Case

The development of a covered outdoor cricket facility

1. **Expanding the opportunity for people of all ages, genders and background to play Cricket**

Working with our partners - Cricket Wales, Glamorgan CC and the ECB, we have identified an opportunity to build and run a covered outdoor cricket facility as part of our facilities (see annex 1).

The installation of an outdoor covered facility will enable GPCC to run all forms of cricket for people of all ages and abilities throughout the year and become an important centre of excellence for talented cricketers in Wrexham City and the wider North Wales Region.

In addition to cricket activities, it will also be a facility that can be used for other fitness / wellbeing activities for people in the local communities of Gwersyllt / Bradley and the wider Wrexham area (see list of Activities in Annex 2).

By establishing the covered outdoor cricket facility GPCC will ensure it meets its main strategic aims of:

- growing the game of **cricket**,
- being the centre of our **community**
- developing a business operating model that ensure **continuity** and;
- expanding our facilities on and off the field to offer a wider range of sports and social activities.

2. **Utilising space to enhance community wellbeing, pedestrian safety and existing ecosystems**

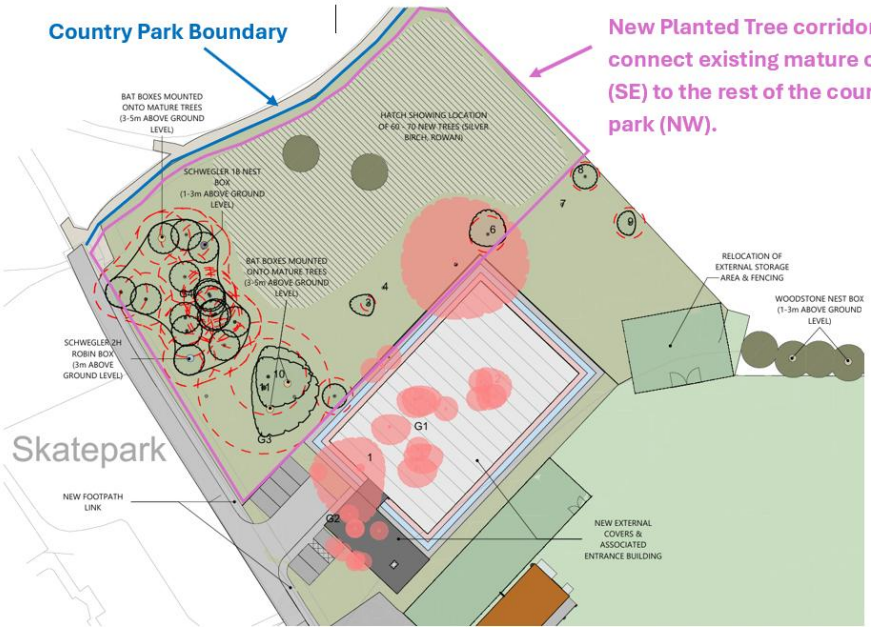
Our proposal is to utilise waste / buffer land behind the existing cricket facilities to build the outdoor facility with secure perimeter fencing (see Annex 3). Land developed for the outdoor facility is of little or no ecological value based on our Ecological Surveys (mainly extraction spoil and covered with bramble).

The small number of wild trees removed (21) will be planted 3-fold in a new wildlife corridor adjacent to the country park. Based on advice of Aboricultural Experts and Landscape Architects, we will plant 60-70 Rowan and Silver Birch trees to connect an existing mature copse of trees that is isolated and make an enhanced wildlife zone that has greater net benefit to the ecosystems than existing conditions at site. Once mature these trees will screen out the outdoor facility on 2 sides and increase the overall landscape of the country park for visitors and members of the local community.

Safe and accessible pedestrian access is provided with previous developments up to the end of the new pavilion building. As part of the outdoor Facility project, we will continue a safe and accessible path right along to the main south park entrance gates which will take pedestrians off the road and enable visitors with disabilities a safe route to enjoy the Country Park.

GPCC already has the key services in place to facilitate the outdoor facility (power, drainage and welfare areas). Use of the extensive solar array with batteries will make our daytime and night time use of the Covered Outdoor Facility carbon neutral.

Fig 1 Illustration of project with Landscape development details



3. Funding and running the Outdoor Cricket Facility with our strategic Partners

Our primary source of funding to enable the project will be obtained through grants delivered with our strategic cricket partners – Cricket Wales, the ECB and Glamorgan CC.

By supporting our case all 3 partners will significantly increase cricket in all forms throughout the year and also fully maintained, managed and modern centre of cricket excellence for local region (Wrexham City) and wider across North Wales.

We will also work with our local partners (below) to raise further grant funds for the additional work on boundaries / infrastructure etc as required.

Our supporting local partners are:
WBCC
Gwersyllt and District Community Council
Active Wrexham
AVOW
Groundwork
Coleg Cambria
Ysgol Bryn Alyn & Ysgol Bro Alyn

GPCC already employ members of the local community to coordinate our events and activities in the Existing Facilities. The Management, booking and running of the Covered Outdoor Facility would be incorporated into existing Job Roles with the addition of an additional post. This increases employment opportunities and ensure that our business model effectively manages and maintains the facility of a daily basis. A basic breakdown of roles and responsibilities is outlined below:

Head of Events and Operations – Overall responsibility for the day to day management of the Covered Outdoor Facility. They will ensure staffing during opening hours is suitable and available and will bring in contractors to maintain the facility in accordance with its Planned Preventative Maintenance Schedule.

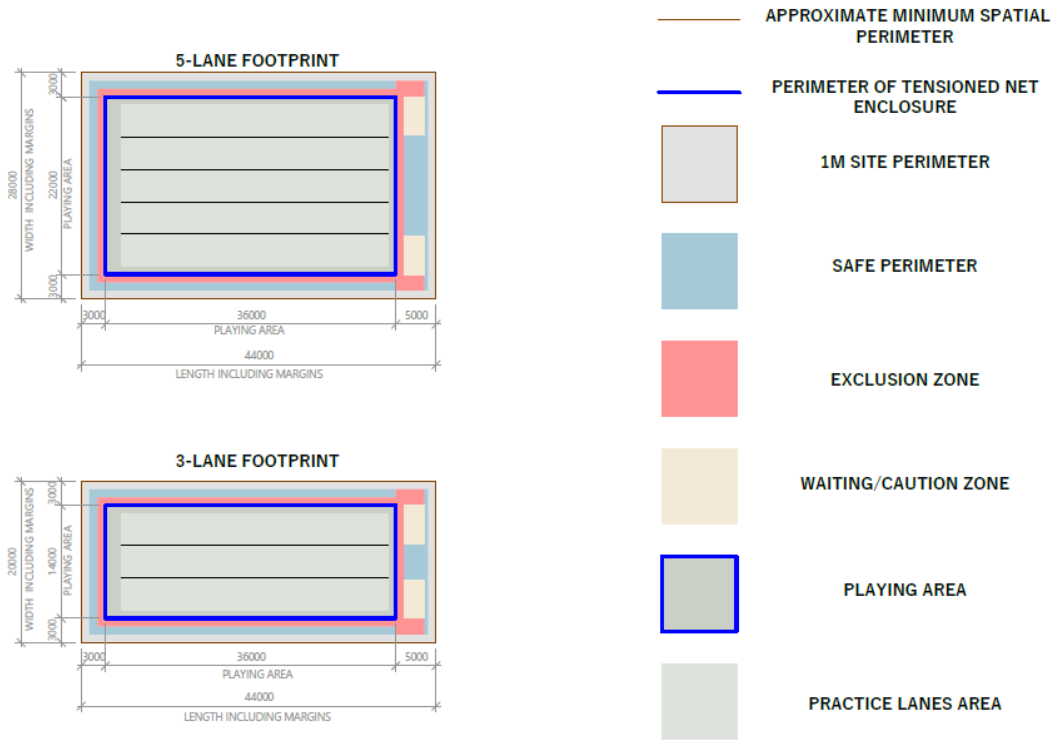
Community Hub Co-ordinators – Will work at the facility and the Community Hub during opening hours to receive customers, deal with enquiries and ensure that the GPCC spaces are safe for use at all times. They will also mange bookings and support transitions for setting up the facility for different events.

Hygiene Team Members – Will carry out regular cleaning of the facility to keep surfaces clear of debris and ready for use during opening hours.

Annex 1 – The Covered Outdoor Cricket Facility

ECB have published information on the design and specifications of Covered Outdoor Cricket Facilities and further information is available on their website.

The Key below has been used by GPCC Architects to visualise the Facility as sighted in options 1 – 6 in Annex 2. GPCC will seek grant funding to build the 5-lane footprint model.



0 5 10 15 20 m
1:500 @ A3

saer architects

PROJECT:
GWERSYLLT CRICKET CLUB

CLIENT:
GWERSYLLT PARK CRICKET CLUB

DRAWING TITLE:
ECB REGULATIONS - OUTDOOR COVERED CRICKET FACILITY

PURPOSE OF ISSUE: FOR COMMENTS
STATUS: S3
DRAWING No: GCC-SAL-03-ZZ-DR-A-0031
PROJECT No: P1085
SCALE: 1 : 500@A3
REVISION: P1

ECB REGULATIONS - COVERED OUTDOOR CRICKET FACILITY

SCALE: 1 : 500

Annex 2 – Activities that will be organised and Facilitated by GPCC in the Covered Outdoor Facility

Cricket

Traditional Net Practice

This consists of setting up the practice lanes with 5 lane netting dividers. In addition to the requirements of GPCC, we will lease the nets to all other Cricket Clubs in the Wrexham Area at a discounted rate. There is a significant shortage of suitable Cricket Practice Facilities in Wrexham and clubs will benefit from better value nets that are safer, and purpose built (lighting / surfaces etc) for cricket activities.

Centre of Excellence

Based on our Strategic Partnership with Cricket Wales and Glamorgan CC we will dedicate suitable usage of the cricket nets to both the Cricket Wales and Glamorgan Regional and National Pathways. They will have the combined use of the cricket ground, the existing outdoor nets and the new Covered facilities for cricket whilst the use of the Community Hub enable greater opportunity for meetings and class based training programmes.

Disability Cricket

The covered level surfaces with appropriate lighting and safety perimeter netting are ideal for disability cricket. GPCC is already a North Wales Hub for Disability Cricket this facility will mean players can take part all year round – regardless of the weather.

Walking Cricket

Walking cricket is a slower paced, less physically demanding version of cricket designed for players aged 50 and over, though it is accessible to people of all abilities and those who have never played before. Key differences from traditional cricket include no running, a softer ball, and modified rules, such as batters scoring runs by walking between wickets. The game is popular for its social and health benefits, including improving fitness and mental well-being. We will offer this version of the game to teams in the Wrexham Area.

Street Cricket

Street cricket is a fast-paced, informal version of cricket played in small, enclosed area using basic equipment like a tennis ball wrapped in tape (a tapeball) and plastic bats. This version of the game is popular for its accessibility, low cost, and ability to foster social cohesion in communities.

Table Cricket

GPCC have recently purchased a number of sets of table cricket. This is an adapted form of the game on table tennis tables with teams of six taking it in turn to bat and bowl. Another excellent use of the space to offer a form of the game to both young and old alike who may not be able to take part in the more traditional formats.

Non-Cricket

Keep fit classes

Options include high-energy cardiovascular workouts like HIIT, spin, and dance (e.g., Zumba), strength-focused classes such as circuit training and BODYPUMP, and mind-body exercises like yoga and Pilates. The safe surfaces and well-lit room will accommodate good numbers from the community and expand on the smaller classes currently run in our community hub.

Dancing

Indoor dancing options include taking classes in various styles like ballet, country (line dancing) hip-hop, or ballroom, we can offer various forms including lessons for beginners.

Silent Discos

A silent disco is an event where people listen to music on wireless headphones instead of a traditional sound system. Attendees wear special headsets that pick-up music broadcast via radio transmitters, often with multiple channels offering different genres, allowing people to switch between them and dance to a variety of music in the same space. These events are popular for their ability to bypass noise restrictions, entertain large groups, and provide a unique social experience. The covered outdoor facility will be an ideal venue for such activities.

Netball

There is a demand within the region for greater facilities to host Netball. A 5 Lane dome can host netball effectively and provide opportunities for new netball courts in the area.

Evening Events

Given the provision of event management by GPCC in the existing facilities, there is opportunity to host larger events within the covered facility if required. These could include Awards Evenings etc. Further investigations into surface protection and additional event equipment would have to be explored but it may be possible based on local / regional or national interest.