

MOSSFIELD STADIUM UPGRADE PROPOSALS – NEXT STEPS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Mossfield Stadium has been used successfully over many years for various sporting tournaments including football and shinty. Historically, the stadium and surrounding grounds have also been used for the Argyllshire Gathering. In more recent times, there has been a diversification of use including hosting events such as Oban Live. Oban Live attracts several thousand people over a weekend event. Whilst the stadium is suitable for sporting events, it has not been upgraded to cope with the differing demands generated by a music festival.
- 1.2 This report provides details options on potential upgrades to Oban's Mossfield Stadium. These emerging proposals are as a result of representation by event users of the Mossfield Stadium facility. The upgrades would benefit sporting events together with alternative events such as music festivals and is seen as an overall enhancement to this facility.
- 1.3 Recognising the importance of events to the local community and economy, this report sets out proposed improvements to Mossfield Stadium which officers consider to be both proportionate and reasonable to increase the versatility of the site as an events venue.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Members are asked to note and consider that further development of the improvement proposals outlined at 4.4 will be undertaken. This will subject to a further report to the December 2019 meeting of the Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee.

3.0 DETAIL

- 3.1 Mossfield Stadium in Oban is a sports venue which has, in recent years, been used increasingly as an events venue.
- 3.2 Although a suitable facility for its primary purpose as a sports venue, feedback

from event organisers has highlighted some aspects of the infrastructure which could be improved in order to make the stadium more attractive as an events venue.

- 3.3 Feedback has highlighted three primary areas of concern: (1) the surface on the approach to the stadium from the car park, (2) condition of the pathway leading to the stand and (3) the lack of event power.
- 3.4 The following table sets out the improvement proposals and indicative costs:

Area for improvement	Outline scope of works	Cost estimates
Approach and hard standing behind goal	Re-surface the access area from the car park including the rear of the goal area.	£30,000
Pathway leading to Mossfield Stand	Create a level footway leading to the stand, ensuring area is accessible to all users.	Awaiting costs
Event power	Installation of event power columns doubling the existing pillars to 4.	£28,000
TOTAL		£58,000

- 3.5 There are three funding options for these works, capital funding from the block allocation, prudential borrowing (offset against future income) or for the Council to seek external funding. On balance, due to limited availability of capital and the risk of borrowing, it is recommended that external funding opportunities be further explored.

4.0 CONCLUSION

- 4.1 This report details improvements proposals outlined which will be further developed with a view to a detailed proposal forming the basis of a report to the December Area Committee.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Policy – Not applicable
- 5.2 Financial – estimated costs of works are detailed in table in paragraph 4.4.

- 5.3 Legal - Not applicable
- 5.4 HR – Not applicable
- 5.5 Equalities – Not applicable
- 5.6 Risk – insufficient events to make the site financially viable
- 5.7 Customer Service – Improved facility, more suited to major events.

Pippa Milne, Executive Director with responsibility for Roads and Infrastructure

Policy Lead of Roads and Infrastructure, Roddy McCuish

August 2019

For further information contact: Tom Murphy, Tel: 01436 658908