

MOSSFIELD STADIUM UPGRADE PROPOSALS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Oban, Lorn and the Isles Area Committee considered a report on potential upgrades to Mossfield Stadium at its meeting of 11 September 2019. The Committee agreed that robust consultation with a stakeholders group should be undertaken and that further development of the improvement proposals would be undertaken, subject to a further report to the Area Committee's December meeting.
- 1.2 This report provides an update following a stakeholder group meeting on 24 October.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to:

- 2.1 Note that a positive stakeholder group meeting has taken place and that a common set of areas for improvement have been agreed;
- 2.2 Agree that a scoping work should progress on the areas for improvement noted at 3.4 following the stakeholder group meeting;
- 2.3 Note that there is presently no identified funding mechanism for any improvement to Mossfield Stadium, and that decisions on funding will need to be made once the areas for improvements are costed and the resource implications for the Council are clear.

3.0 DETAIL

- 3.1 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.

3.2 Whilst the stadium is suitable for most sporting events, it has not been upgraded to cope with the differing sporting demands and those needs generated by a music festival. Recognising the importance of events to the local community and economy, the process to review the stadium's suitability and to propose, through robust engagement with all users, proportionate and reasonable improvements, is now underway.

3.3 A stakeholders meetings was held on 24 October at Mossfield Stadium Representatives from a range of users were present, including:

- Council officers;
- Live Argyll;
- BID4Oban;
- Oban Games;
- Argyllshire Gathering;
- Oban Live;
- Oban Celtic Shinty Club;
- Oban Camanachd Shinty Club;
- The MacAuley Association;
- Oban High School
- The Access Forum

3.4 The stakeholder group was invited to provide their comments on the condition of the stadium from their perspective, and following a positive discussion the group agreed to the areas for improvement highlighted by officers in the previous area committee report as well as additional actions. These are summarised below:

Areas for improvement	Scope
Approach and hard standing behind goal	Re-surface the access area from the car park including the rear of the goal area.
Pathway leading to Mossfield Stand	Create a level footway leading to the stand, ensuring area is accessible to all users.
Event power	Installation of event power columns doubling the existing pillars to 4. ***NEW*** Lighting to be included in this scope
NEW Booking system	A simplified, user friendly and accessible booking system
NEW Fencing around the stadium	Replace previous fencing destroyed in fire with a view to preventing vandalism
NEW Potential user group	A user group/steering group to continue positive engagement on the use of the stadium as a community asset.

3.5 With a common set of actions agreed by users the intention, subject to approval by the Area Committee, is that these be fully scoped, and the results of that scoping work be presented to a future meeting of the stakeholder group with the intention of arriving at a practical set of deliverable actions, subject to funding becoming available.

3.6 Following that further stakeholder group meeting a further report will come to the Area Committee.

4.0 CONCLUSION

4.1 The process of positive engagement with Mossfield Stadium users is underway and a common set of areas for improvement have been agreed.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Policy – none

6.2 Financial – there is currently no identified funding for improvements to Mossfield Stadium.

6.3 Legal – none

6.4 HR – none

6.5 Equalities – none

6.6 Risk – none other than the financial risk at 6.2

6.7 Customer Service – this approach is consistent with the Council's drive to engage with stakeholders

Executive Director with responsibility for Roads and Infrastructure, Pippa Milne

Policy Lead for Roads and Infrastructure, Cllr Robin Currie

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For further information contact: Tom Murphy, Operations Manager, or Paul Martin, Asst Ops Manager (West)