

Installation of Artificial Bowling Surface at Kirkwall Bowling Club

Area – Orkney Mainland

Lead applicant – Kirkwall Bowling Club

This project involves the installation of an artificial outdoor bowling green at the Kirkwall Bowling Club. The Club is looking to convert the older of the two greens currently available into an all-weather artificial playing surface. The exceptionally inclement weather during 2015 underlined the need for an artificial surface to allow the Club to continue to move forward with confidence. This was confirmed through consultation with the membership, with the project also gaining support from the wider community.

Installation of the surface will allow play to be assured irrespective of weather, extending the playing season and thereby increasing the opportunity for members and non-members to use the facility. The Club hopes that this will attract more people of all ages and backgrounds to participate in an activity which can be tailored to their ability and fitness level, benefiting their well-being.

A summary of project aims are:

- Ensure that the Club will continue to attract a wide range of members and visiting players to participate in the sport of bowls and encourage young players to the game.
- Provide for members and visiting clubs and players an even better facility.
- Extend the playing season greatly beyond the current period of April to September, allowing play on a great many more days throughout the year when the principal green is closed or unavailable.
- Ensure that less able players who currently find difficulty on the present green can play with greater ease and confidence on the lighter, faster green. Ensuring that older members and visitors and those perhaps of less robust health can continue to gain from the benefits of regularly playing bowls.
- Allow more players on any one day to play and, on competition days when the main green is in full use, ensure that non-participants can still have a game on the artificial green.
- Allow tuition to be given to those with an interest in the game at times when the existing green is closed.

Financial Information	£	%
Total Project Costs	145,442.00	n/a
Total Eligible Costs	138,516.00	100.00
LEADER	68,721.00	49.61
Orkney Islands Council	65,448.81	47.25
Club's own funds	4,346.19	3.14