

Cook, Peter

From: Maria Penfold <maria.penfold30@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, 17 October 2022 10:45 AM
To: Cook, Peter
Cc: Creighton, Ben
Subject: WWCC- Letter requesting contribution to Netball Court Upgrade

The General Manger

WWCC

Dear General Manager

Re: Collingullie Glenfield Park Football Netball Club- Netball Court Upgrade Crossroads Oval Collingullie

I am writing on behalf of the Club Committee to ask whether the WWCC would give consideration to making a contribution toward the upgrade of a second netball court at Cross Roads Oval. We are currently faced with funding that upgrade from our own funds at a cost of approximately \$90,000. We are in the process of running a community fundraising project which we expect will generate around \$20,000. We have funds in our Capital Works Budget to meet the balance, however those funds had been allocated to projects over the next three years including completion of the Old Club House Upgrade, Fencing of the Netball Court Facility , Upgrade of the Playground Facility and Installation of electronic scoreboards for Football and Netball.

These projects would have to be put on hold.

We set out below the circumstances which have led to this current situation.

We have two bitumen netball courts at Crossroads Oval, one four-year-old court, used for match play & training and the other a twelve-year-old court in a state of disrepair and not sanctioned for use by Netball NSW. We commenced planning the upgrade to this facility in September 2021 and with the support of WWCC we lodged a successful application with the Office of Sport NSW, for an Infrastructure Grant. The project was to replace the twelve-year-old court with a concrete slab synthetic covered court together with an all-weather steel framed roof covering that court. The total budget for the project was \$340,000 GST ex and the Grant component was \$320,000. The Funding Agreement was completed in April 2022 and the first instalment of funds was received in May. The project has commenced within the scheduled time in October 2022. At the time of completing the application, October 2021, the replacement of the netball court involved three separate contractors who would excavate the area, lay the slab and apply the synthetic top coat. The combined cost of that component of the project was approximately \$160,000. We did consider the replacement of both courts at that time but the cost of two courts involving the three contractors was close to

\$320,000 and would have meant a total project of around \$500,000. We considered that prohibitive and unlikely to succeed.

Getting contractors to provide a quote for project in October 2021 was easy but getting them to commit to the Office of Sport timetable 12 months on, for a project dependant on a successful Grant Application is another thing. I am sure you would agree that getting contractors in the construction industry to commit to projects in the current climate is most difficult.

During the last twelve months we became aware of the contractor issue and after some considerable investigation we have been fortunate to have found a local contractor who completes all court upgrade tasks and who can complete that part of the project on budget and within the Office of Sport timetable. The drawback is that this contractor's technique (laser level gravel and slab over existing structure), equipment size and preference, is to carry out projects of a two-court minimum. He quoted \$155,000 for one court and \$245,000 for two courts. He could not guarantee the timetable for the one court project as some excavation would have been necessary and most of his equipment was not be suited to that size project.

In order to maintain goodwill with this contractor and to take advantage of the very cheap cost of a second court the Committee has agreed to replacing both courts. Without this contractor the whole project including the Grant Funded project may be in jeopardy. The Office of Sport Funding Agreement is clear that any additional funds required to complete the project will have to be sourced from our own funds or from other partners. Thus, we need to find an additional \$90,000.

If we would have had all this information in October 2021 and with the benefit of hind sight we would have included the second court in the Grant Application. That was not the case and we made the decision to apply to replace one court based on the information available at that time.

Our Club has been carrying on Australian Football and Netball activities at this venue for in excess of 100 years. In 2017 we entered a formal Licencing Agreement with WWCC for the lease of the entire facility. Since that time, we have carried out a dozen capital improvement projects, funded by a combination of Club and Community funds and in-kind, and Federal, State and Local Government Grants. Those projects including the current Netball Court upgrade are valued in excess of \$1,300,000. All projects have been fully funded and completed on time and in budget. The project detailed above is the first one where we are outside the initial funding budget.

As detailed above we have plans to continue the Capital Improvements at this facility and create a community hub for the growing rural village of Collingullie. All projects are planned and completed with a sport and community benefit in mind. Those plans will have to be put on hold for two to three years if we are required to fund this project by ourselves.

We would be grateful for any contribution WWCC would be able to make toward this shortfall. Any funds received would be channelled back into the Cross Roads Oval facility in the form of another capital improvement project.

This will become a WWCC asset once completed.

We thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Yours Sincerely

Noel Penfold

CGPFNC President.