

Permanent Cricket Nets

Proposal: To use CIL money to erect a compound for a cricket net alongside the tennis courts (utilising the existing fence for most of one side of the compound).

Details: Mortimer Cricket Club would like to establish a permanent net facility on the Fairground. This would comprise an extension of the fencing around the tennis court to form a new compound (32 x 4m) to hold the metal mobile net with new netting, and an artificial practice wicket surface. The enclosure would be gated at one end to allow bowlers access and to allow the mobile net to be removed for practice on the cricket square itself.

An outdoor net is required to extend practice and coaching sessions from the indoor nets held at Willink School during the winter months, to outdoors on the Fairground during the summer cricket season. This facility would allow practice and coaching to be carried out on the artificial practice wicket proposed, but also on the grass of the cricket square. The net would be used for players to warm-up at each of the Saturday, mid-week and Sunday matches, in addition to the coaching and training sessions. It will also be used by visiting cricketers during matches and during the separate coaching sessions that would be open to both members and non-members.



The fencing will be of the same specification, colour and height as the existing tennis fence and it will be at the back of the tennis courts, parallel to The Street, but on the north side of the courts, next to the older children's play area. The gates would be sited to the eastern end, ie facing the cricket outfield, so that any ball hit out of the net would go in this direction and not towards children playing, or anyone watching the cricket by the pavilion. This will require the re-siting of the table-tennis table. The cricket activity in the net would be screened from the tennis courts by a (green) canvas along the fencing between the tennis court and the cricket net. The Club would be responsible for the provision, installation and maintenance of the net structure and wicket.

Costs: The estimated cost of this (including necessary permissions and moving the table tennis table) is £11,000. The likely cost of maintenance is £330 per year which would mean the following increase in council tax for a home in each property band:-

| | | | |
|--------|-----|--------|-----|
| Band A | 13p | Band E | 24p |
| Band B | 15p | Band F | 28p |
| Band C | 17p | Band G | 32p |
| Band D | 19p | Band H | 38p |

The facilities inside the compound (metal net, netting, artificial wicket surface) would be the responsibility of the Cricket Club.

Your Views: Any views you give are important we would particularly like to know:-

- Do you support the building of permanent cricket nets on the Fairground?
- Is it reasonable for part of the cost to be covered by CIL (as detailed above)?
- Is the increase in Council Tax to cover the maintenance reasonable?