

**Ernest Stevens Trusts Management Committee – 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015**

**Report of the Strategic Director (Resources and Transformation)**

**Ernest Stevens Trust – Wollescote Hall, Wollescote Road, Stevens Park, Stourbridge – Request for the Grant of a Licence**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To consider the request for a licence to be granted on the grounds of Wollescote Park, Wollescote Road, Stourbridge in order for the erection of 2 No. temporary sheds for additional changing facilities; a licence to occupy rooms on the ground floor at Wollescote Hall on match days and permission to site a 4-shelf metal storage cupboard in Wollescote Hall.

**Background**

2. Wollescote Park is part of the Ernest Stevens Trust and Dudley Borough Council are the Trustees. The function of Trustee has been delegated to the Ernest Stevens Trusts Management Committee in the Council's constitution.
3. Crystal Bowls Club has been in occupation of rooms on the first floor of Wollescote Hall for a number of years, jointly with the Black Country Bowls Club and the Sons of Rest.
4. It is proposed that a licence be explored in order for Crystal Bowls Club (CBC) to occupy rooms on the ground floor of Wollescote Hall, currently used by the Sons of Rest, on certain dates this year in order to provide catering facilities on match days for visiting clubs. A similar licence was granted to the Black Country Bowls Club (BCBC) to use the rooms also.

The dates in which the CBC wishes to use the rooms are as follows:-

April	-	Sat. 25 <sup>th</sup>
May	-	Sat. 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; Sun.10 <sup>th</sup> ; Sat. 30 <sup>th</sup>
June	-	Sat. 6 <sup>th</sup>
July	-	Thurs. 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; Sat. 18 <sup>th</sup> ; Thurs. 23 <sup>rd</sup>
August	-	Sat. 1 <sup>st</sup> ; Thurs. 6 <sup>th</sup> ; Thurs. 20 <sup>th</sup> ; Sat. 29 <sup>th</sup>
September	-	Wed. 9 <sup>th</sup>

5. In addition, the CBC would also like to erect 2 No. 14' x 8' temporary sheds for additional changing facilities for the Club. The sheds are proposed to be located within the bounds of the level green Bowling Green and adjacent to the existing pavilion. The Club have sought pre-planning advice that has been approved subject to a full planning application being submitted; currently in progress.

6. Furthermore, the CBC have also requested to site a 4-shelf metal storage cupboard in the Hall in order to house catering equipment to be used by both Clubs; measuring at 914W x 457D x 1829H with double doors and a lock. The Sons of Rest have no objections for it to be sited in the large area between the corridor door and the entrances to the toilets; the space is large enough and will not interfere with anyone against the left-hand wall. This cupboard will make life much easier by not having to cart equipment to and fro each time the Clubs use the rooms.

### **Finance**

7. There are no financial implications to the Trustees

### **Law**

8. The Council is the registered Trustee of the charity and in accordance with the Councils Constitution has delegated the administration of the charity to this Management Committee.
9. Section 139 of the Local Government Act 1972 empowers the Council to accept, hold and administer gifts of property, where it enables them to discharge any of their functions and where the gifts are for the purposes of benefiting the inhabitants of their area.
10. The Law relating to Trusts which are charitable is contained in various legislations. The key legislation being the Charities Acts 1960, 1992, 1993 and the Trustees Investment Act 1961.

### **Equality Impact**

11. The proposal takes into account the Council's equal opportunities policies.

### **Recommendation**

12. The Committee is requested to consider approving the grant of a licence to the Crystal Bowls Club to occupy rooms in the Hall on match days, to erect 2 No. temporary sheds for additional changing facilities and permission to site a 4-shelf metal storage cupboard in the Hall.



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