

## **Hailsham Cricket Club 3 lane open net system proposal**

### **Reasons for the new facility**

We are an ever expanding club, possibly the most successful sports club in the area.

We have 100-120 juniors training every week from April-August at the recreation ground, as well as through the winter months Jan-March using indoor facilities at Hailsham Community College. These juniors are predominately from the Hailsham area, but increasing from further afield too. We have several juniors on the Sussex Cricket Junior Pathway.

The club has a number of girls playing cricket, and this will be a real growth area of the club over the next 1-5 years. The U14 girls won a number of county tournaments last season.

The adults section of the club continues to grow. This is the traditional Saturday league cricket, and indeed many of our juniors (including girls) play this standard of cricket. We have 4 teams playing every Saturday through the season. We are particularly proud that we have a woman captain of our 4<sup>th</sup> XI, possibly one of the first instances in the county, indeed further afield.

All these members, adults, juniors, men and women, require proper training facilities. Cricket is a highly skilled and technical sport that requires practice and training.

Our current 2 lane netting facility at the recreation ground is not fit for purpose for older juniors or adults. It is fine for juniors under the age of 10 with a softball, but certainly it is not fit for purpose with a real cricket ball.

We are also struggling with indoor training facilities, and whilst we continue to use Hailsham Community College, this is a continued challenge because the facility enjoys other sports bookings, and also because of the numbers of players we have now.

### **New facility**

The proposed 3 lane netting system provides many benefits.

It will be a leading facility in the area.

It can be used virtually all year round, including in wet conditions.

The facility will be ECB compliant.

It can be used by players of all standards, and allows for the run up requirements of a standard pace bowler.

The facility will have a lifetime that will exceed the playing careers of our current juniors.

We will have external hire opportunities for other cricket clubs.

### **Financing**

The cost from our chosen provider is £73,013.

The club has available funds currently of £49,037. We are applying to ECB for a grant of £10,000 (confirmed once planning approval in place).

We are therefore investigating opportunities for the remaining £13,978 that is required.

