

# ALICE PARK GAMES WALL

This sheet summarises a proposal for a Games Wall in Alice Park, Larkhall. The proposal is put forward by local residents Chris Hall & John Ingham for consideration by the Alice Park Trust. The Games Wall would be a new, free to access facility, for Alice Park. Simply, it would be a free-standing wall which individuals or small groups will be able to use for play & more focused practice, by hitting balls toward it and having them returned.

The wall would have painted on it markings associated with a number of sports, including a tennis net, cricket stumps, a football goals, as well as other markings that provide specific targets. Inspirational quotes regarding practice & sporting achievement could also be added, as well as information on different types of games that could be played using the wall and ground surface.

Durability & low maintenance are key design drivers, and as such it is proposed to build the wall from blockwork, with the mortar flush on one side and recessed on the other, and a painted finish applied over the top. Some foundations would be required, and it is recommended that a Structural Engineer is consulted. The wall would be central within a new but small area of hard-standing so that it can be used from both sides and in all weathers; one half of the hard-standing could be replaced by artificial grass. The facility would be largely self-governing, but some guidance could be given as to use.

Following some analysis there are a number of possible sites but the one near the cycle track, as shown opposite, is considered the best. The wall and its surroundings should be incorporated into the wider park, and as such there is the possibility to provide new connecting pathways, seating and planting.

A fund raising campaign could be supported by a 'buy-a-block' scheme or sponsorship from a local sports organisation. The design & build processes might also involve the local community

The project team are enthusiastic about the facility, and informal support has been gained from a number of Alice Park users. Further information can be provided to help move the project forward. Thank you.

