

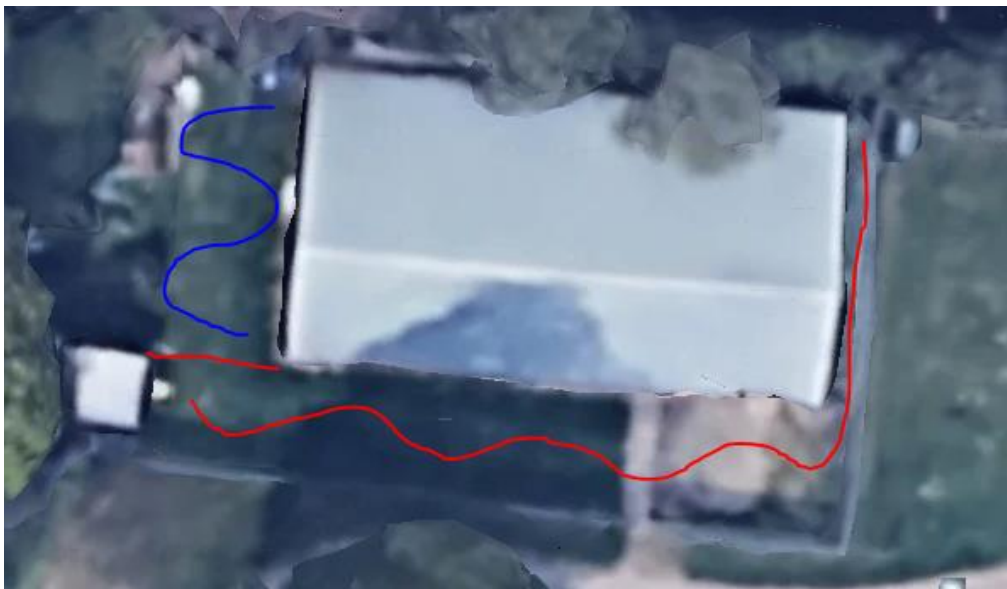
## **Proposed work to the outside area at 1<sup>st</sup> Iver Scout hut**

**To be considered at Facilities and Events Committee – 6 November 2024**

There are 2 main goals for this work.

- 1 – To make the outside area more accessible and functional which will greatly improve the activities and opportunities we can offer the young people.
- 2 – To improve the appearance of the area and to make it easier to maintain.

To help explain the plans, I have divided the area into 2 sections. Please see below image. **Section A is marked in red**; **section B is marked in blue**.



### **Section A**

This is fairly straightforward. The whole area will be cleared and returfed where needed. This will get rid of all overgrown areas, weeds and stinging nettles. There is already a path running alongside the hut, this will be tidied and repaired where needed. This whole area will become simply a large multiuse area with neat, tidy grass which will make it look much better and will enable us to use it for outdoor activities, or simply to run any activity outside in good weather. It will also make it much easier for us to maintain.

### **Section B**

As above, this whole area will be cleared and returfed where needed, we will however be leaving lots of areas around the edges more natural as we are aware that there is lots of wildlife that use it!

This is the area where other improvements will be carried out. We would like to have a sheltered area next to the hut. This would not be a permanent structure in any way and would not be attached to the building at all. It would consist of tall wooden 4-inch posts placed into the ground. 2 next to the hut and 2 further out. There would be a clear polycarbonate roof. This would give us access to the outside area in all weathers and by using natural wood it would be keeping with the appearance of the area. The clear roof would mean that it would almost blend in and not be too noticeable, and of course it could be removed at any time. The size would be around 13 metres in length (along the side of the building) and it would come out around 3 meters from the building.

Also, in section B we would like to add a firepit area. This would be a simple circular area that would be dug down slightly and surrounded by bricks and gravel. At scouts we do a lot of outdoor camping activities, etc. and being able to practice fire lighting, cooking on campfires or even just be able to sit around a campfire and sing songs right outside the hut would be amazing. These are all activities that are enjoyed by everyone. The campfire area would be kept as natural as possible and is not permanent at all. There would be no fire lighting equipment stored outside at all and it would be placed quite far back, so away from the fence adjoining the recreation ground.

We would also install seating for the fire area, and for outside use in general. Rather than any permanent or large seating, we will be getting individual logs made into seats. These can then be moved around wherever we need them and stored neatly away when not in use.

The work would all be carried out by Gibbs Gardening who are a professional gardening and landscaping company based in Windsor. We have secured a grant that will cover the costs of all the work needed.

