Wiltshire Council

FAO: Ms G Wright

By email only

27th July 2024

Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015

Application Reference: PL/2023/11067
Site: Tidworth Town FC, Humber Lane, Tidworth, SP9 7AH
Proposal: Creation of clubhouse for use by members, visiting teams and spectators (Resubmission of PL/2022/08875)
Sport England Reference: PA/24/SW/WSH/67766

Dear Georgina,

Thank you for re-consulting Sport England on the above application.

We have reconsulted with Wiltshire Football Association and the Football Foundation.

They have reviewed their previous comments after discussing the proposal with applicants and are now happy to support the proposal.

Therefore, its Sport England's opinion, that the proposal would meet our planning policy exception E2.

Sport England's position

Given the above, Sport England withdraws its statutory objection, which was submitted on the 10th June 2024, because the application because it is considered to accord with the exception E2 to our Playing Fields Policy.

If this application is to be presented to a Planning Committee, we would like to be notified in advance of the publication of any committee agendas, report(s) and committee date(s).

If you would like any further information or advice, please the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

Bob

Bob Sharples RIBA ARB MRTPI
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cc C Whittaker Esq. FF
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L Taylor Esq. WFA

Annex

The Five Exceptions to Sport England's Playing Fields Policy

Exception 1
A robust and up-to-date assessment has demonstrated, to the satisfaction of Sport England, that there is an excess of playing field provision in the catchment, which will remain the case should the development be permitted, and the site has no special significance to the interests of sport.

Exception 2
The proposed development is for ancillary facilities supporting the principal use of the site as a playing field, and does not affect the quantity or quality of playing pitches or otherwise adversely affect their use.

Exception 3
The proposed development affects only land incapable of forming part of a playing pitch and does not:

- reduce the size of any playing pitch;
- result in the inability to use any playing pitch (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins and run-off areas);
- reduce the sporting capacity of the playing field to accommodate playing pitches or the capability to rotate or reposition playing pitches to maintain their quality;
- result in the loss of other sporting provision or ancillary facilities on the site; or
- prejudice the use of any remaining areas of playing field on the site.

Exception 4
The area of playing field to be lost as a result of the proposed development will be replaced, prior to the commencement of development, by a new area of playing field:

- of equivalent or better quality, and
- of equivalent or greater quantity, and
- in a suitable location, and
- subject to equivalent or better accessibility and management arrangements.

Exception 5
The proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor facility for sport, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss, or prejudice to the use, of the area of playing field.

The full 'Playing Fields Policy and Guidance Document' is available to view at: www.sportengland.org/playingfieldspolicy