

APP/24/00612 | Approval of reserved matters comprising layout, landscape, scale and appearance, pursuant to outline planning permission APP/21/01071 for the development of 43 dwellings along with public open space and associated infrastructure works. | Land south of Lower Road and west of Old Manor Farm, Havant

Havant Borough Council Active Wellbeing Team Comments – 19.09.2024

The Active Wellbeing team comments are broadly similar to that of the pre application response in that we are pleased to see the allocated play space within the layout plan and further detail on the design to determine the level of impact it will have on local children and young people is required.

The design of the play space for children and young people should consider the Havant Borough Council Open Space strategy:

<https://www.havant.gov.uk/media/8331/download?inline=>

The strategy outlines that it follows Fields In Trust (FIT) guidelines as below.

<https://www.fieldsintrust.org/Upload/file/guidance/Guidance-for-Outdoor-Sport-and-Play-England.pdf>

Phase 1 and 2 combined of the development will provide a total of 93 dwellings. Field in Trust guidelines recommend for a development of this scale that there is a need for provision of a local area of play (LAP), locally equipped ear of play (LEAP) and a contribution towards a MUGA.

Thes LEAP and LAP spaces could be creatively combined in one area on site by allocating appropriate space and the variety of equipment required to meet the needs of all ages.

A detailed design needs to be presented for the play space(s), including the equipment mix to be provided to encourage all ages and abilities to enjoy the areas safely, together. It should detail how each area is inclusive and accessible for all regardless of age or ability.

The proposal to create a natural play space to encourage children to interact with nature is positive. There would however need to be more substantive play provision than the logs, balance beams and mounds suggested as these alone provide limited play value for children. We would welcome further detail on how other play experiences such as: swinging, spinning, climbing, bouncing, and sensory provision are to be provided.

It would also be helpful to see further details on the robustness of materials to be used, their life expectancy, types of safety surfacing and whether fencing and gates are proposed.

Detail should also be provided on the ancillary items to be provided such as number and location of bins, seating areas and bike storage.

Simon Hasted

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