

From: Owen Neal

Sent: 12 September 2019 13:07

To: 'planning.development@havant.gov.uk' <planning.development@havant.gov.uk>

Subject: App Ref: APP/19/00828 - HAVANT RFC (HOOKS LANE), HOOKS LANE GROUND CLUBHOUSE
FRASER ROAD PO9 3EJ - Sport England Ref: PA/19/SE/HV/53327

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for consulting Sport England in respect of the following conditions:

Variation to condition no.2 (approved plans) – to make some minor alterations to elevational treatment, including new high level windows and security shutters to other window/balcony door openings. Temporary balcony platform/external fire escape until funds available to implement fully approved details of new balcony/fire escape.

Removal of condition no.3 requiring upgrading of MUGA court and such works to have been fully implemented 6 months after the children's day nursery first opens for business.

Sport England understands that in relation to the application for removal of condition no.3, the intention is to facilitate the conversion of the MUGA/Courts at the site to provide additional car parking to support access and use of the planned new rugby compliant Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) at Havant Rugby Club.

Sport England identified in its pre-application response that the MUGA/courts may be needed to meet community needs for sport in the area and recommended consultation with England Netball and the LTA as the representative national governing bodies for netball and tennis respectively.

Sport England has subsequently consulted England Netball and the LTA on this application and has received the following comments. England Netball comments that they are not aware, both at a county, regional or national level of any use of the area for netball for the last 4 years. England Netball therefore do not object.

The LTA comments that they are unaware of any current usage of the courts at the site. The LTA's priority in the area are improvement works to courts at the nearby Bidbury Mead Recreation Ground, approximately 0.5 miles away from the Hooks Lane site. The LTA would ask for confirmation that the three courts at Bidbury Recreation Ground will be fully resurfaced before the proposed loss of the three tennis courts at Hooks Lane.

Sport England has also consulted the RFU on the application. The RFU comments that are happy to support the rugby club and have no objections.

Conclusion

In light of the above comments, Sport England does not have any objection to the application to vary and remove the above conditions respectively. However, we would like confirmation that the proposed resurfacing works of the tennis courts at Bidbury Recreation Ground will be carried out before any loss of court provision at Havant RFC is incurred. We would ask for a letter of comfort from a senior council officer confirming this.

Yours sincerely,

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