

HAYLING GOLF CLUB

Links Lane, Hayling Island, Hants PO11 0BX

phone: 02392 464446 email: clubsecretary@haylinggolf.co.uk www.haylinggolf.co.uk



David Eaves
Principal Planning Officer
Planning Services
Havant Borough Council
Public Service Plaza
Civic Centre Road
Havant
PO9 2AX

13th March 2017

Dear Mr Eaves

Facilities Building Hayling Golf Club - GEN/16/00624

I hope that you will recall our meeting at Hayling Golf Club back in July 2016 when you kindly looked at the site of our proposed facilities building and kindly gave us some outline advice.

Since then we have undertaken a series of consultations within the Club, with Natural England as well as appointing an ecologist and engaging with local construction specialists in order to arrive at a point where we are ready to make an application for planning consent to build the new structure.

At the time of our meeting we outlined a little of the history of our Club and discussed the reasons why the facilities are a crucial part of our development and improvement over coming years, I thought that I would take this opportunity, in support of the application, of putting down those discussions in letter format to hopefully aid your consideration of our application.

Hayling Golf Club was formed in 1883 by male members of the Sandeman's Port family, a year later some female members of the Sandeman family formed Hayling Ladies Golf Club, this established both of these Clubs as amongst the oldest in the country and joint oldest in the county, as a Links Golf Course we hold a unique position on the South coast and the Club is ranked well inside the Top 100 courses in the UK and Ireland.

Currently we lack any toilet facilities on the course, the only opportunity of visiting a toilet comes when you arrive at the 13th Green/14th Tee which, traditionally, is about three hours into a round of golf, and only then by visiting the toilets situated just off of the course in the Head Greenkeepers' house.

Historically the course has had a number of trees and areas of dense foliage which, not too indelicately put, have offered cover for Gentlemen and Ladies to relieve themselves.

More latterly, however, as part of an ongoing commitment to Natural England and to manage the Course, which is a SSSI, all of these trees and large areas of the foliage have been removed.

As a direct result Ladies in particular are now finding it difficult to keep themselves correctly hydrated on the course as they know that it will be in excess of three hours before appropriate facilities are available to use the toilet, we also enjoy a thriving junior section of both boys and girls to whom we owe a duty of care and to provide the correct facilities whilst they are under our supervision.

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indeed, and in any event, relying upon 'natural cover' to go to the toilet, in particular for juniors and ladies is no longer a tenable scenario in a modern forward looking club such as ours and we believe that situating a facilities block at the midpoint of the course, (which would also then be available after playing 12 and 14 holes), is a proper and essential service to our Members.

By combining the proposed toilet facilities with an area where refreshments might be served is also a way in which we can seek to elevate the club and move it upwards in the ranking positions, a natural way of attracting more golfers and visitors to the course for the unique combination of Links Golf on a Top 100 course with excellent facilities.

I hope that these observations are of assistance, should you require any further information or need to visit the Club again then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely

[Redacted Signature]

**Mr Jamie Leggett
Club Captain
Hayling Golf Club**