

3 2013 539P

Whalley QE2 Playing Fields Trust

AMENDED PLANS RECEIVED

July 2014

DATE 17 July 2014

Planning Application for Multi Use Games Area

Supplementary information to support Application.

The existing Cricket, Tennis, and Bowling facilities have been in regular use for over 100 years

The existing 3 Football pitches have been in use for over 30 years

The site as a whole is the only major public open space in Whalley, and is also designated for recreational activity.

The site is publicly owned by Whalley Parish Council, and leased to Whalley QE2 Trust, a registered charity.

The current combined active membership for the 4 main sporting activities on the site is nearly 500 of which approximately 280 are young people.

The facilities are variously in daily use throughout the year for organised games, training, and casual use, all of which may take place in the daytime or evenings

The Trust encourages general use of the site for informal play, recreation, and sports activities at all times by the general public and other organised groups such as Scouts and Guides.

The proposed new Multi Use all weather games area, Outdoor exercise equipment, and seating shelter will be available for open public and organised use dependant on managed use of the facilities by the Trust

These proposals are being developed in the context of there being no other publicly accessible recreational space for young people and adults in Whalley, a community of 3000 + people, with recent planning permissions adjacent to this site for several hundred new houses

The proposed floodlighting is designed to limit artificial light spillage to within the Trust site. A revised detailed lighting design and spillage assessment is being submitted as part of the planning application.

The floodlighting would be managed by the Trust for organised and casual use, but in any case will normally only be in use between October and March, during evenings, up until 9pm at the latest.

There are also existing adjacent Tennis courts with flood lighting which have been in use for recreational activities for over 20 years through the winter evenings, without complaint from local householders

The Trust considers that in the context of the existing well used recreational facilities, that enhancement of these facilities will lead to better and safer use of the site for the whole community of Whalley, especially young people.

In addition there will be only limited loss of amenity to approx 6 to 10 households, the nearest of which is over 50m from the proposed games area, limiting any additional acoustic and visual intrusion to neighbouring properties.

There are also additional existing perimeter garden trees, shrubs, sheds, and garages to these properties providing further acoustic and visual barriers, for some or all of the time.

The location of the proposed facilities close to Mitton Rd is to allow for easy access for young people in a location which is safe for them and others making use of this public open space

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The Trust is in an advanced stage of fundraising for these proposed facilities with over £ 50K committed from Grant funders, including Lancashire Environmental Fund, RVBC, and Whalley Parish Council

Whalley Sports Community Park – Feasibility Study

The Whalley QE2 Trust, Whalley Sports Club (Cricket Tennis Bowling), and various representative community organisations in Whalley (Whalley Parish Council, Whalley Scouts and Guides, Whalley Village Hall Assn, etc) have been carrying out a comprehensive feasibility study to improve and develop the whole recreational site and facilities.

The location of the Multi Use Games area, Outdoor exercise, and seating shelter, has been carefully proposed in the context of improvements to the whole site which may be developed in due course, subject to funding and necessary permissions.

This may include :

- A new Sports and Community Hall with indoor sports, changing, community use, and social facilities, to replace the existing pavilion
- Improved football and cricket pitches and facilities (currently on going with £ 50K grant from Sport England and £ 8K Recreation grant from RVBC)
- Improved access, parking, and security for the site as a whole
- Possible relocation of Tennis courts to a more central position in due course
- Development of an environmental conservation area and Forest Garden at the top end of the site (currently on going with grant support from RVBC)

Following consultation with the wider local community, further proposals may be brought forward for consideration by RVBC, in relation to planning, sports strategy, community needs, and related issues, to benefit the community of Whalley as a whole.

Peter Forbes

Community Building

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1. The EH response was made prior to submission of the above supplementary statement, which addresses some the issues raised :

- A "curfew" time of 9pm is now proposed for evening use.
- The MUGA would be located at least 50m from the nearest house, and only 6 – 10 households are located within 150m of the proposed MUGA, with considerable acoustic and visual barrier formed by trees, shrubs, fences, garden sheds, and garages etc between the houses and the playing fields
- The proposed location of the MUGA is essential for both ease of access and safe use by local young people.
- The proposed location of the MUGA is essential in the context of other proposed uses and activities on the playing fields site noted above.

2. Acoustics

- The whole playing fields site has been in regular year round, day and evening use, for informal and formal sports and recreational activities for over 30 years, including the proposed MUGA site.
- Whilst the volume of sporting activity may increase, the level of associated noise should not be affected.
- The proposed location of the MUGA is between existing football and cricket pitches, where regular sporting activities take place in any case.
- There is no history of complaints by local residents in relation to the existing sporting activities causing acoustic intrusion or nuisance
- The acoustic environment of the site is heavily dominated at all times by road traffic noise from the bordering A59 major trunk road, which is also raised approx. 15m above the whole site, exacerbating the sound spillage from the road towards the playing fields and neighbouring houses
- The ambient road noise, if db levels are measured, is likely to be fairly high and constant between 7am and 9pm throughout the year, and effectively acoustically masks sporadic noise from sporting activities on the site, which might otherwise be considered intrusive if the site was located in a more relatively quiet "rural village" acoustic environment.

3. Floodlighting

- The installed floodlighting units will be designed and specified to comply with " BS/EN recommended lighting standards contained in Lighting Guide 4 : Sports Lighting for floodlighting in a rural location" , as requested by EH. ; To limit light spillage beyond the playing area to recommended lighting lux levels.
- The previously submitted light spillage plans (Kingfisher lighting) for 2 alternative proposals, both show light spillage estimates limited to less than 2 Lux within the boundary of the Playing field site adjacent to residential gardens and at least 40m from the nearest

house boundary. EH note a figure of 0.5 Lux - we assume that this figure must be demonstrated within the site boundary and will specify for this level to be achieved.

- We have consulted with James Russell at RVBC and Kingfisher lighting have now significantly altered their proposed lighting installation design as indicated in the attached revised specification and light spillage plans. The floodlighting posts are reduced from 8 to 6m and predicted lighting spillage is indicated at 0.1 lux at the boundary of the playing field site adjacent to the garden areas of neighbouring houses, well below the 0.5 lux requested.
- We consider that this design will now meet the design requirement for environmental zone category E1 of the ILP Guidance notes as requested. However we would in any case argue that the relevant zone for this installation should be considered as E2, based on the following ILP Guidance notes :
E1: Intrinsically dark landscapes National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, etc
E2: Low district brightness areas Rural, small village, or relatively dark urban locations
(see attached copy of ILP Guidance notes for your reference.)
- As the project contract supply will be subject to competitive tendering, we propose that final approval of the actual floodlighting units to be installed is agreed as a reserved matter subject to final approval before installation.
- Any reflected "glow" from the MUGA sports surface will have limited visual intrusion to local residents for the same reasons noted above in relation to acoustic intrusion, ie the visual barrier formed by trees, shrubs, fences, garden sheds, and garages etc between the houses and the playing fields. This applies to the south side of the site. The north, east, and west aspects are bounded by the raised and tree lined A59 road and raised railway track, with no overlooking houses
- The sports surface will be a polymeric type 4 material with a low reflectance finish and colour tone. We will endeavour to provide glare index figures for the chosen surface in due course, if required. Also please note the attached comments of Stewart Weaver the lighting designer who does not consider that reflectance will be an issue with the lighting levels proposed
- The raised goal end timber panel rails will mask any limited reflected light in the direction of the adjacent housing
- Also please note that the MUGA is not intended for use as a tennis court and therefore a higher level of lighting will not be required for this purpose

Peter Forbes

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Extract from Email sent by Stewart Weaver, Kingfisher Lighting - 17 12 13

Please find a copy of our revised design attached. As discussed I have used the minimum lighting level as per the CIBSE Guide for football training @ 75 lux average with 50% uniformity to keep the impact down on the adjacent houses.

I have taken on board your comments concerning the column height and have designed with 6M using a single 250W Aludra Asymmetric floodlight with a 250W Ceramic Metal Halide lamp. The tilt angle is 15 degrees but this is still dark sky compliant in line with the ILP guidance notes on obtrusive light.

With regard to the surface we do not have any specific information on reflectance factors for polymeric type 4 finish but understand that colour can either be post applied to give non - slip properties or coloured rubber granules when laid. We would recommend a dark surface colour eg. Dark Blue or even Red . If we consider the 75 lux average I have designed to we do not expect any issues with reflectance off the synthetic surface.

Please let me know if you require any additional information.

Kind regards
Stewart Weaver

Kingfisher Lighting

