

Jane Tucker

From: planning
Subject: Consultation on planning application 3/2014/0438 land east of Chipping Lane, Longridge

From: Fiona Pudge [<mailto:Fiona.Pudge@sportengland.org>]
Sent: 24 June 2014 14:36
To: Daniela Ripa
Subject: RE: Consultation on planning application 3/2014/0438 land east of Chipping Lane, Longridge

Hi Daniela

I've had the following response from Dan Musson at the ECB:

Hi Fiona,

To answer your questions:

1. *Yes, building housing adjacent to the ground without creating protection from ball strikes would potentially jeopardise the use of the ground. Once the property is constructed the club would be liable for damage to persons or property under civil law (Miller vs Jackson 1977 is the precedent case law) and therefore the cost of using the ground could be uneconomic if a number of civil suits were pursued. In recent times a number of legal challenges have been made against grounds with close proximity to housing including injunctions being sought to prevent play. Without adequate protection we would request you seek a statutory objection. Furthermore it should be noted that 9m on the East edge of the ground is likely to be inadequate due to the length of the boundary. Typically at this distance (circa 40m from the square) a fence of 12m in height would be expected but this should be subject to a detailed risk assessment and design.*

2. *Whilst telescopic netting is technically possible it is not practicable over such a large area without very high cost for both construction and maintenance. The imposition of the maintenance costs of this on the cricket club would be unreasonable.*

Incidentally, Longridge CC is a priority club for the Lancashire Cricket Board and they are very active with 20 teams at the Club and this site is in use 7 days a week throughout the summer.

Please let me know if you need any further information.

Regards,

Dan

*Daniel Musson : Facilities and Investment Manager
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My conclusion is that a risk assessment to determine the level of ballstop fencing is required. This could be included as a condition if you are minded to approve the application. If the requirement ballstop fencing is removed then Sport England would have no choice but to lodge a statutory objection because of the prejudicial nature of the development.

Please let me know if you have any further queries.

Kind Regards

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