

[REDACTED]

From: Contact Centre (CRM) <contact@ribblevalley.gov.uk>
Sent: 30 October 2022 17:23
To: Planning
Subject: Planning Application Comments - 3/2022/0937 FS-Case-461955450

[REDACTED]

Planning Application Reference No.: 3/2022/0937

Address of Development: Oakhill School
Wiswell Lane
Whalley

Comments: We wish to register our objection to the planning application submitted by Oakhill School for the erection of fencing around the 3G sports area adjacent to our [REDACTED]. We are residents [REDACTED] with Oakhill School where the 3G playground is situated. [REDACTED] and have no issues with the existing activities at the school. However, in 2020 the school diversified their activities by extending the use of the playground for use as an adult 5-a-side football venue. They did this by installing fencing and 'temporary' flood lighting. As a result, we have been subjected to evening and weekend use by adults for the past two years and the associated loud shouting, swearing, repeated banging of the ball against the side walls and then during the winter months, the lighting up of [REDACTED] with the floodlights. We have contacted the [REDACTED]

We have also been in contact throughout the past two years with RVBC Planning and Environmental departments, who have been trying to resolve this matter. Our understanding is that the fencing installed by Oakhill to allow for the revised use was done so without the necessary planning approval yet we continue to be subjected to the noise and light pollution associated with its use.

We have no issue with Oakhill upgrading their school facilities for students use but do take exception to the change in use for adult competition, which has significantly impacted the quality of life [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] summers evening trying to enjoy some quiet relaxation is simply not possible when there is the level shouting, foul language and thumping of a ball from the 3G football pitch [REDACTED]

The application from Oakhill makes specific reference to the fact that they believe RVBC have no power to apply any restrictions in the use of the facility so it is clear that, if planning approval is granted, they intend to make as full use of the facility as possible. This can only mean that our misery will be prolonged.

What makes this situation particularly frustrating is that Oakhill have previously applied for planning permission for a similar facility on a playground at a different location on their site. We understand that RVBC had concerns about noise and light pollution at that time. However, Oakhill chose not to progress that application further and since then have underway the construction of some residential properties as homes for the [REDACTED] and for sale.

Clearly they didn't want to have the impact of the noise and light pollution from the 3G pitch on [REDACTED] but are quite happy to impose that misery on us.

If Oakhill are unwilling to accept restrictions that their facility is for use by school students only, then we strongly urge the Council to reject the application, stop the facility being used by adults and allow us to enjoy [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]