

[REDACTED]

From: Contact Centre (CRM) <contact@ribblevalley.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 May 2026 19:48
To: Planning
Subject: Planning Application Comments - 3/2026/0295 FS-Case-835800301

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Planning Application Reference No.: 3/2026/0295

Address of Development: Brian Holden memorial playing field, Mardale Road, Longridge, PR3 3EU.

Comments: Having taken my football and cricket [REDACTED] all over Ribble Valley and indeed much of Lancashire to participate in sports, I am very much in favour of improved sporting facilities for local residents. However there are issues which I would like to discuss. Mardale playing fields is the only venue we visited that charged for parking. Currently that leads to people parking on the streets in front of our houses and makes access (including of course for ambulances and the fire service) very hazardous. There are currently 70 parking places at the site and if they were made free of charge this would help!

I also worry about the fact that my [REDACTED] very close to the proposed site and that the increase in noise pollution plus the horrendous idea of light pollution from floodlights is not a happy prospect. The value of [REDACTED] and others in the immediate vicinity would obviously be badly affected; so I must ask what compensation are you willing to pay for decrease in value of our property? Currently we have two or three football games on a Saturday at most and half a dozen on Sundays, with occasional training sessions during the week. Looking at your proposals it seems that these will be expanded to 8am to 10pm every day. That is a chilling prospect! Who is going to police this site when it is completed. We only ever see traffic wardens on Sunday morning when they come to catch people who park without a ticket and we regularly get people walking dogs across the field rather than on the dog walk. Increased traffic around an already very narrow gaggle of roads will also be a major problem for children who live around here playing around their houses. As I said before I am not in opposition to this plan but I am not sure it has been thought through!!!

[REDACTED]

From: Contact Centre (CRM) <contact@ribblevalley.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 May 2026 19:54
To: Planning
Subject: Planning Application Comments - 3/2026/0295 FS-Case-835810142

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Planning Application Reference No.: 3/2026/0295

Address of Development: Brian Holden Memorial Playing Field
Mardale Road
Longridge
PR3 3EU

Comments: As a resident of Hacking Drive, last summer I had a [REDACTED] with one of the [REDACTED] who objected to the proposed development of a 3G football pitch on the Brian Holden Memorial Playing Field. I refused to agree that it was either uncalled for or have a significant impact on our lives, and argued strongly in favour of upgrading the facilities in order to allow Longridge Town Juniors, and others, to train and play more regularly on the fields. Drainage has always been an issue, and games and training are often called off throughout the season because the pitches are too wet – this is still the case despite the much appreciated drainage improvements the council has made in recent years. The crux of my argument was that the 3G pitch is not only essential to provide leisure facilities for the community, but also to prevent the selling off of another playing field to build houses.

It is therefore with deep regret that I am forced to register my objections to the plans as currently formulated. We were given to believe that the pitch would be placed on the other side of the field, close to the changing rooms, where it would be most convenient for players and further away from the houses. Now the location of the 3G pitch is in a position that will cause most disruption to the maximum number of people, flora and fauna. One is forced to wonder whether the builders of the new estate have had a hand in the movement of the pitch?

We now face the potential of LED lighting [REDACTED] house until 10pm every night, and the associated noise of balls hitting the fencing. I can see that the plans include both a noise and light impact survey, but even now, as I write in my kitchen at 7.30pm, whistles and shouts are clearly audible. I do not relish the prospect of this noise every evening until 10pm – of course I realise that the 8am-10pm hours are its availability rather than a statement of when it will definitely be in use, but the fact that these hours are included in the planning application means that they are a possibility. As keen gardeners, we enjoy our garden into the evenings, and I note that councils have a statutory responsibility to prevent nuisance from artificial light that might ‘unreasonably and substantially interfere with the use or enjoyment of a home or other premises’. I fail to see how lights that stay on until 10pm, with the associated noise and traffic, can do anything other than cause nuisance. One might also consider the likely detrimental impact on the value of the houses at the bottom of Hacking

Drive, should any of us wish to sell in the future.

The parking situation is already a disaster: again, we have discussed this with neighbours who would like to see double yellow lines in place on the estate. We, emphatically, would not, as we recognise that most people will attend matches and practices by car. At the moment, this is only on a couple of evenings a week and weekends, but with the planning application covering 14 hours every day, the traffic problems are only likely to increase. Further expansion of the car parking at Mardale Road car park, and, fundamentally, the removal of parking fees is essential alongside the construction of the pitch.

Moreover, the ecological impact does not seem to have been fully thought through. I have read with interest the report on how the environmental impact might be mitigated through upscaling wildflower planting, etc, but did not notice mention of the impact on nocturnal mammals such as hedgehogs and, crucially, bats (which are protected species), that thrive in the vicinity. When we wished to extend the dormer on our bungalow, we had to supply the council with a bat impact study. Although I accept that this pitch will not necessarily impact their roosts, the lights will have an undoubted impact on their habitat. There are also newts in the area. I see no mention of any of this.

Finally, it appears that a second 3G pitch is under planning consideration by Preston Borough Council as part of the Longridge Sports Village. Is there any co-ordination between the planning departments in this regard, and has there been any consideration of whether Longridge can sustain both?

Copies to Councillor Keiran Spencer & Maya Ellis, MP

[REDACTED]

From: Contact Centre (CRM) <contact@ribblevalley.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 May 2026 19:25
To: Planning
Subject: Planning Application Comments - 3/2026/0295 FS-Case-835798102

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Planning Application Reference No.: 3/2026/0295

Address of Development: Brian Holden memorial playing field, Mardale Road, Longridge, PR3 3EU

Comments: I'm a [REDACTED] who grew up playing on this field with my friends and I'm all for upgrading the facilities and having an astro turf placed there but I have concerns about it. I want to know why it has been moved from the side with the sports pavilion where it is beneficial for the teams to get to it. I also want to know whether it will be locked up outside of games and training times because that seems like it will be a waste of space on a community field where people have spent entire days on there with friends and families enjoying the open space, so I think without having it open to the public you are ruining a friendly space for everyone. Finally, the quality of life in the local houses is going to decrease massively as the floodlights are going to be on from 8am - 10pm and there will be lots of noise coming from the Astro all throughout the day, this is especially bad as most of the residents in this area are elderly and will not be able to cope with what will be going on. What if in a couple of years I had a family and wanted to move into this area, imagine how hard it would be to get a newborn baby to go to sleep with the noise and bright lights, it would be extremely difficult, stressful and tiring.