

**PROPOSED FLOODLIGHTING OF THE EXISTING BALL COURT
AT FOUR LANES COMMUNITY JUNIOR SCHOOL, HANMORE ROAD, CHINEHAM
(APPLICATION NUMBER: BDB/75531)**

1. Background

- 1.1 At their meeting held on 25 April 2012, Hampshire County Council's Regulatory Committee resolved to defer their decision on this application.
- 1.2 The committee requested that the applicant produce a management plan, outlining how the recently improved ball games area and the proposed floodlighting were to be managed.
- 1.3 The committee also asked that the local community be consulted on the management plan prior to them re-considering the application.

2. Management Plan

- 2.1 A management plan was produced in conjunction with the Community Centre Manager and Junior School head teacher.

3. Consultation with the local community on the management plan

- 3.1 The Management Plan was made available to the public for comment for a three week period from 5 July 2012.
- 3.2 Letters inviting comments were distributed to 27 nearby households, these being the local residents living closest to the existing facility. These letters detailed a number of methods by which residents could view the management plan and set out how comments should be submitted.
- 3.3 A copy of the letter to residents is included in Appendix 1 and a plan showing the nearby households it was sent to is shown at Appendix 2.
- 3.4 The following individuals/groups were also invited to comment on the management plan:
 - Ward Councillors (x 3)
 - County Councillor
 - Chineham Parish Council
 - Local Police Officers (x 3)
 - Local PCSO
 - Local Community Patrolling Officer
 - Community Safety Team at Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council
 - Outreach Community Development Officer
 - Potential user groups (x 12)
 - Junior School parents (x 308)
 - Infant School Parents (x 270)
- 3.5 These individuals/groups had access to the same information as nearby residents.
- 3.6 In total 628 individuals/households/groups/organisations living, working or operating from within the Chineham community were invited to comment on the management plan.

4. Responses to the management plan

4.1 Sixteen responses were received to the consultation exercise. These are outlined below. In response to the issues raised by those who have commented, the applicant has added their commentary and details of amendments to the management plan in response to some comments.

Ref	Summary of comment(s) made	Response by Applicant
1.	<p>The ball court is a huge asset to the community and lighting will only prove to further enhance this. I fully support the draft management plan and has no doubt the site will be well managed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>(Ward & County) Councillor Elaine Still</i> 	No response required.
2.	<p>Thank you for your mail. As a member of the JMC at Four Lanes School, I was afforded the opportunity to comment on the initial draft of the Management Plan and I am content and support the submitted version. As a member of the Parish Council I am aware they have also submitted their comments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>(Ward) Councillor Paul Miller</i> 	No response required.
3.	<p>At the Chineham Parish Council meeting on Monday 9 July 2012, Councillors discussed the draft management plan for the Ball Court at Four Lanes School. Please see below the comment that was agreed and that Councillors wish to submit:</p> <p><i>“if there were to be lighting at the Four Lanes Ball Court, despite the Parish Council’s previous objections, the Parish Council finds the proposed management plan acceptable.”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Chineham Parish Council</i> 	No response required.
4.	<p>My thoughts on the planned lighting are that it should be operated by a manual timer switch that will only turn the lights on until 2000 hrs. After this time the lights should not operate to avoid groups hanging round at the school after dark. The schools regularly suffer damage to the buildings due to the fact that they are so isolated as surrounding properties cannot see into the grounds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Hampshire Police Beat Officer</i> 	<p>Section 8 of the management plan confirms that the proposed lighting will be controlled by a manually operated push button control, which will activate the lighting for a period of one hour. After this period, the floodlighting will automatically switch off. Therefore, if users wish to continue playing after the one hour period they will need push the button again.</p> <p>The applicant has proposed hours of operation for the floodlights in consultation with the borough council (i.e. up to 2100hrs Monday to Friday). These proposed hours of operation of the floodlighting are considered to be appropriate for this type of facility and are comparable to the hours of operation at other similar facilities within the Basingstoke area.</p> <p>These comments were made by the local beat officer who works with the school, the community centre and other patrolling agencies to discourage inappropriate behaviour within the school grounds outside of school hours.</p>

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		<p>However in response to the comments made by the beat officer and concerns raised by others respondees, the applicant is prepared to consider an earlier cut of time of 2000hrs on a Friday.</p> <p><u>Amendment to the management plan</u></p> <p>a) <i>Clause 8.1 of the management plan has been amended to read:</i></p> <p><i>Any floodlighting will be operational up to 2100hrs Monday to Thursday and up to 2000hrs on Friday only. Floodlights will be controlled by a timer switch. This will automatically switch off the floodlighting at these times and will not allow them to be re-illuminated until the following day.</i></p>
5.	<p>I am a parent of children attending the four lanes schools. I have looked at the plan and cannot see any provision for additional litter bins. This needs to be addressed as there are no litter bins in sight of the ball court. Every day when we come to school there are many plastic bottles on the floor in and around the ball court. There has also been broken glass over the bike rack located next to the ball court.</p> <p>It seems madness to expect the users of the court to deal with their litter responsibly when there are no bins provided. Children can't be expected to arrive at school with broken glass where their bikes go and to see so much litter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Parent</i> 	<p>The provision of litter bins is being progressed separately with the head teacher of Four Lanes Community Junior School.</p>
6.	<p>I think that the plan for the management of the ball court is very reasonable and well thought out. I only hope that children will be able to use these facilities out of school hours as children have been told to leave school premises at the weekends by police / Community Support Officers telling them they were not allowed on the premises outside of school time. These were 9-11year olds who did not appear to be playing inappropriately!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Parent</i> 	<p>No response required.</p>
7.	<p>Thank you for sharing the plans for the Four Lanes Ball Court. I am a little surprised it will be a bookable area and not just open for anyone to use. I know my son will be disappointed as this is the only place in Chineham where he used to be able to play football on a hard court. (I say Chineham as do not count Taylors Farm as part of our community). I do think by locking it and not allowing casual use will just ask for problems, i.e. people breaking in to use it. I hope this is not the case.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Parent</i> 	<p>The facility will not be locked so will be available to all times for use; but the proposed floodlight will only be operational at agreed times. Bookings will be advertised on a notice board attached to the fencing ensuring ad-hoc users are aware they will need to vacate the facility if a booking is due to arrive.</p>

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8.	<p>I think this seems like a really good idea, possibilities of after school clubs being able to carry on into the winter months and for residents of Chineham to have somewhere lit up to play.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Parent</i> 	No response required.
9.	<p>I would just like to register my positive view of the Ball Court. It is going to be a valuable resource for the school and community groups and will hopefully give the children locally somewhere to go channel their energies.</p> <p>The Court itself is pleasing to the eye and a huge improvement on the previous Court. It will be a real asset to the community.</p> <p>Although I do not live close to the Court, it is clear that steps have been taken to limit the evening use and effects of the lighting, and to balance the needs of those living near the Court with the users themselves.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Parent/User</i> 	No response required.
10.	<p>My comments as a local resident (30years) are as follows; the previous observations and objections of the residents were dismissed so I am doubtful any notice will be taken of further comment. However having read the management plan for the ball court I feel this will only bring further angst and disruption to those living in the vicinity. During the winter months in particular when it becomes dark at four we have a potential light annoyance of five hours. I feel, having wide experience of the after school noise from Four lanes, that the cut off time of nine o'clock is far too late. Seven o'clock is by far a more sensible time.</p> <p>The main cause of worry, I feel, from most residents is the shouting and swearing these areas attract. We are not against young people exercising but the "Ad Hoc" use is of most concern. You say a manager is on site. I overlook the ball court and have NEVER seen anyone intervene to stop bad behaviour or foul language at any time. Why will it be different when flood lighting is installed? I feel it will last longer and make life more unbearable when in use.</p> <p>It is difficult to explain to people concerned with this project how at the weekends, or on lighter evenings, when we are enjoying our garden, that we need to abandon any idea and return indoors because the screaming of swear words are so bad. No, I am not exaggerating. Control over the school grounds of undesirables is non-existent. You say bad behaviour will not be tolerated. But the ball courts still attract groups of youngsters.</p>	<p>General comments about anti-social behaviour issues cannot be attributed solely to the ball court and, whilst the introduction of a good management regime will help to minimise future instances within the vicinity of the ball games area, it is for the police and patrolling agencies to use their powers to address anti-social behaviour issues.</p> <p><u>Amendment to the management plan</u></p> <p>b) <i>As per amendment a) against response ref 4 on page 3.</i></p> <p>There are currently in-formal management and monitoring of the recently improved ball games area. Introducing floodlighting and a pre-booking system necessitate the need for additional on-going management.</p> <p>The headteacher and community centre manager are fully aware of this and in particular the need to ensure there is appropriate monitoring and management of users. Hence, the development of a draft management plan which formalises the current monitoring arrangements and proposes further controls to deal with the management of floodlighting and the pre-booking system.</p> <p>No response required.</p>

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	<p>The last example was in fact last night, 7th July. When a group of over twenty youths were drinking in Four lanes school grounds, boys and girls. Some fighting took place and eventually this escalated to the surrounding neighbourhood with the inevitable fence kicking. This lasted till five thirty Saturday morning when a small group returned and tried to demolish a neighbours fencing panel. Yes the police were informed at three thirty but I saw no patrolling officers. I am afraid to say I have reported many like incidents to the Police before. Nearly all emanating from Four lanes school. But it still continues. An excuse I have had from the Police for their non- attendance or very late attendance has been they are under resourced or too busy. It being a busy Friday night or busier Saturday night.</p> <p>This is obviously not what you want to hear. But these are our fears and they are very real. Why should we be the victims when in the past OUR children attended Four lanes and we always offered our support. This should be a joint effort with the local residents with our encouragement but history has taught us this is not the case. We suffer the consequences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Nearby Resident</i> 	
11.	<p>I am a local resident, living in Chineham, in Gibbons Road which backs onto Four Lanes School. Although I appreciate that the ball court needed upgrading and I think this was a good thing to do, I do not believe that floodlighting is needed.</p> <p>I have read the draft Games Area Management Plan and I would like to make some comments. The Community Centre Manager, it is proposed, will be absent every Friday after 6pm. Surely that is when most children want to relax and use the ball court. Saturdays? Sundays? No-one will be there to monitor it. This does not make any sense. I see that the flood lighting can be operated up until 9 o'clock each day - (para 8.1). It seems to me that someone should be available up until 9pm if that is the intention.</p> <p>Paragraph 8.3 refers to a master switch "<i>available to the Community Centre Staff</i>" which can be switched off "<i>at any time if behaviour is considered to be inappropriate</i>". The prime time when this might be needed is a Friday night, most likely after 6pm and then at the weekend. It doesn't say where the switch would be sited. As the Community Centre Manager is off-duty after 6pm on Friday and not back again until Monday, who can switch the floodlighting off in their absence?</p>	<p>Ad-hoc usage of the ball games area in the evenings and at weekends has occurred since the ball games facility was installed during the 1990s.</p> <p>The draft management plan seeks to formalise these arrangements and put in place a management regime for the times when the proposed floodlighting and pre-booking system would be operational.</p> <p>See response to 4 above in relation to the proposed hours of operation.</p> <p><u>Amendment to the management plan</u></p> <p>c) <i>As per amendment a) against response ref 4 on page 3.</i></p> <p>The switch will be located in the electrical feeder pillar located adjacent to the ball games area but the lights will not be operational at weekends so the ad-hoc weekend usage will in theory be no different to what has happened since the court was provided during the 1990s.</p>

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	<p>Paragraph 7.1 refers to inappropriate behaviour. In these cases it says future access will be denied "to the individual, group or club causing the disturbance". I make the same point again, that access cannot be denied if the Community Centre manager is off-duty from Friday 6pm through to Monday evening. The Council believes inappropriate behaviour will only happen before 6pm on a Friday. The inclusion of the Police telephone number is perfunctory.</p> <p>The preparation of the Management Plan has been rushed and is only half thought-out.</p> <p>Besides the above, as a local resident I do not see the need/desire for lighting to be operational up until 2100hrs. A number of years ago, there was a lot of trouble in terms of vandalism and anti-social behaviour in the school. I remember being awoken one night, looking over the playground and seeing a fire burning, after people had tipped over a rubbish bin and set it alight. Last Friday, 6th July, in the middle of the night the police were called to a disturbance over in the school. The police will be able to confirm that numerous calls were made from local residents. Putting floodlights into the ball court will help attract this kind of teenager/vandal who is not in the least interested in any sport but will enjoy vandalising the school buildings and smashing their drinks bottles against school property.</p> <p>Personally, 2100hrs seems unnecessarily late in the warmer months. Given that natural sunset in July is around 2100hrs, I would prefer the timing of floodlights to go off far earlier. I can agree that in the cooler months, users may benefit from the extra visibility but I see it as unnecessary in the warmer months. One of the pleasures of warmer evenings, (in a normal summer with less rain than now), is being able to sit outside in the garden. Sadly, one of the displeasures is hearing the loud, foul language of people who use the ball court. I would not have the courage to go and speak to them to urge them to watch their language and as seen above, the Community Centre Manager will be far away on a Friday night after 1800hrs or on a Saturday or a Sunday.</p>	<p>This is dealt with in section 7 of the draft management plan. The applicant confirms that there will always be an on-site staff presence for all pre-booked groups.</p> <p>Pre-booked groups or clubs (or any individual within that group/club) causing a nuisance will be asked to leave the facility and future bookings requests will be denied.</p> <p>See response to 4 above in relation to the proposed hours of operation.</p> <p><u>Amendment to the management plan</u></p> <p>d) <i>As per amendment a) against response ref 4 on page 3.</i></p>

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	<p>I don't want to appear as a pessimist. I am glad the facility is now improved and available for local children. I know how easy it is for young children to become hooked on computer games. Nonetheless, if/when the lighting goes ahead, assuming the residents' voices are ignored, then I trust that sufficient funds will be given to the school to make good the property and grounds when the vandalism begins. In addition, if/when the floodlights are smashed; will the budget have sufficient funds for their replacement?</p> <p>I trust the above is clear and I am happy to discuss any of it with any council or school members if they so wish.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Nearby Resident</i> 	<p>Income from bookings will be used to maintain the ball games area, including the proposed floodlighting.</p>
12.	<p>I have just read the 'management plan'! Very concerned – this just appears to be a statement of what is currently happening.</p> <p>I was expecting to see the extra steps that were being put in to both manage the facility now, as it is without the lights, and also how it will be managed when floodlights are available. In my mind, this just shows the facility is not being actively managed.</p> <p>As I remember the meeting about this planning application in Winchester, they only agreed not to reject it on the basis that the local residents would still be left with a problem in the summer months – the direction from the meeting was to produce a report showing how the Ball Court could be managed effectively all year round and demonstrate how the School/Four Lanes Community Centre could be good neighbours. As mentioned earlier, the document produced does none of this, it only states the current position – I do not see how the lighting is being managed, or understand how people will be prevented from using the facility. There at least needs to be someone on-site for any period the lighting can be used.</p> <p>Can you please go back to those people that should be managing this facility and ask for a proper plan to be put in place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Nearby Resident</i> 	<p>The applicant's willingness to produce and consult on a draft management plan which sets out how the floodlighting and inappropriate behaviour is to be managed, shows a willingness on the applicants part to be a good neighbour.</p> <p>There is no planning requirement for a management plan for the existing ball games facility. Ad-hoc usage of the ball games area in the evenings and at weekends has occurred since the ball games facility was installed during the 1990s and following the recently implemented improvements. The draft management plan seeks to formalise existing informal arrangements for managing the existing ball games area and put in place additional management systems for the times when the proposed floodlighting and pre-booking system would be operational.</p> <p>The management plan also commits the applicant to reviewing the management plan on an on-going annual basis.</p>
13.	<p>This letter is in reply to your letter on the Four Lanes Community Junior Schools concerning the Management Plan for the ball games area in relation to the lighting scheme.</p> <p>Before commenting on the plan, I should like to make the observation that the tone and assumption made in your plan gives the impression that the floodlighting is 'a done deal' and that no matter what observation are made on the plan the floodlighting shall go ahead. Is this true?</p>	

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	<p>However, I shall assume that planning application has not been approved and make observations on the plan.</p> <p>Availability of the ball games area (3.1). The sentence “outside of school hours for use by the wider community” does this mean including floodlighting?</p> <p>The point made in (6.3) that “this will ensure monitoring during the majority of its usable hours” does this really mean that the majority of its usable hours will be monitored?</p> <p>Under point 7.1 it is stated that “future access being denied to the individual group or clubs causing the nuisance”. Unfortunately it is not explained, how this access will be denied. This needs to be explained in great detail.</p> <p>The plan talks of the complainant getting in touch with the Police on 101 or 999. Is this a serious statement that this should occur? My experience with using 101 is that nothing is followed up and no resolution takes place.</p> <p>It is stated “any floodlighting will be operational up to 21:00hrs Monday to Friday” does this mean that the ad/hoc casual users will not be able to switch the floodlighting on Saturdays and Sundays? The way it is currently written it does mean that ad/hoc will not be able to use the floodlighting at the weekend.</p> <p>There is no mention under this section of any communication with neighbours or any consultation especially with regard to light pollution.</p> <p>In conclusion, although not mentioned in the Management Plan, it was stated at the Hampshire Regulatory Committee meeting that the design of the ball court was for 8-11 year old children. Therefore, based on this statement, who will be controlling and preventing the ad/hoc usage of the ball court by the teenagers that are currently using the ball court?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Nearby Resident</i> 	<p>This does include floodlighting but only within agreed operational hours set out in the draft management plan.</p> <p>Over the course of a year, there will be an on-site staff presence for the majority of the time that the ball games area is usable.</p> <p>Individuals, groups or clubs that have previously caused a nuisance will have future booking requests denied by the applicant.</p> <p>This statement is correct. The 101 number is the correct procedure for reporting inappropriate behaviour at any location, not just the ball games area at Four Lanes School.</p> <p>The floodlighting will not be operational on Saturdays and Sundays.</p> <p>The design of the floodlighting is such that virtually no light pollution will be dropped on neighbouring properties.</p> <p>Assuming the planning application for floodlighting is approved, the applicant and his agent will visit the site as soon as possible after installation in order to identify where light is falling and ensure that any deviation from the approved design is corrected at the earliest possible opportunity.</p> <p>Additionally, post installation of the proposed floodlighting, neighbours will be able to raise concerns with the head teacher and/or community centre manager.</p> <p>The facility is located within a community junior school and will be used predominately by 8 to 11 years olds during the school day; hence, the mini-goals, shooting targets and other built-in equipment has been sized accordingly for this age group. Furthermore, the games area is targeted at this age group; however, this does not preclude other members of the community (e.g. older children and/or adults) from using the facility at other times.</p>

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14.	<p>The revised management plan goes a long way to meeting the concerns I had about the operation of the floodlighting. Most of the time when the floodlighting is operating there is a person at the community centre who can keep an eye of things. I am pleased to see that the floodlighting will not be operational at weekends.</p> <p>There is an exception though on Friday evenings when the floodlighting will be available but no responsible person on site which I think should be addressed. I would suggest that the floodlights should only be available when there is someone there to take responsibility.</p> <p>9 pm is a reasonable time for the lighting to be turned off.</p> <p>I think that a little extra money should be found to allow the installation of CCTV on the site. Since the new ball court has been opened I have been woken at 4am by a party taking place in the school playground and ball court. I know I wasn't the only one because when I rang the police they had already sent two PCs to the site as someone else had been woken and rang in.</p> <p>The document does not address bank holidays and outside school term time - I think both need to be considered.</p> <p>I hope you will give these suggestions some consideration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Nearby Resident</i> 	<p>See response to 4 above in relation to the proposed hours of operation.</p> <p><u>Amendment to the management plan</u></p> <p>e) <i>As per amendment a) against response ref 4 on page 3.</i></p> <p>No response required.</p> <p>The school/community centre already operates a CCTV system which covers areas of the school grounds, including the ball games area. Therefore there is no need for an additional CCTV system.</p> <p>Four Lanes is a community school. Therefore activities take place throughout the year, including during school holidays. Consequently, there is a staff presence on the school/community centre campus on most days.</p> <p>Therefore the regime set out in the management plan applies at all times and there is no need for a special management regime during school holiday periods.</p> <p>The applicant acknowledges that he has not provided for Bank Holidays or Public Holidays within the draft management plan.</p> <p>Therefore, in response to the comments made the applicant is prepared to add the following paragraph to the draft management plan (if requested by HCC's regulatory Committee).</p> <p><u>Amendment to the management plan</u></p> <p>f) <i>New Clause 8.1(a) to read:</i></p> <p><i>For the avoidance of doubt the flood lighting will not be operational on Saturdays, Sundays, Bank Holidays or Public Holidays without the prior written approval of the planning authority.</i></p>

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15.	<p>Firstly, I wish to put on record that once again, as your very first one, your letter has been distributed to only a fraction of the local properties within sight and sound of Four Lanes School Ball Court. This selective process does little to enhance your cause.</p> <p>The message from all 39 neighbouring properties that signed the petition objecting to the proposals to light the ball court at Four Lanes School remains as strong as ever.</p> <p>NO LIGHTING.</p> <p>The Parish Council have stood firm and rejected any proposal for lighting at Four Lanes School three times. I am advised their position remains unchanged.</p> <p>In brief the local residents raise objections to any lighting option for the following reasons:</p> <p>USERS</p> <p>We have produced written evidence to both Basingstoke and Hampshire CC on more than one occasion that there are no local user groups with the slightest interest in using this facility, a facility designed for use by children up to the age of 11 only.</p> <p>CLEARLY DEFINED LEGAL REASONS</p> <p>Light Pollution as defined by the Environmental Agency: <i>'The intrusion of light onto neighbouring property which affects the neighbours rights to enjoy their own property'</i></p> <p>Light is defined as a nuisance under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 and the Environmental Protection Act 1990 which covers <i>light emitted from premises – including Sports facilities.</i></p> <p>There are also clear guidelines on creating noise and light pollution covered by the ECHR Act that would be breached.</p> <p>Four Lanes School could most certainly and irresponsibly leave themselves open to prosecution under either of these acts if the go ahead with any floodlit facility.</p> <p>ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>We had had the opportunity to view twenty five similar facilities in Hampshire, and the closest a facility with any source of lighting comes to housing is just over 50m. Four Lanes is just 17m away from the nearest properties. Too close for comfort.</p>	<p>Letters were distributed to all properties within sight of the ball games area and more as can be seen from the distribution map in Appendix 3.</p> <p>Chineham Parish Council was invited to comment on the draft management plan. Their comments are outlined at 3 above.</p> <p>The applicant has conducted its own market research with potential user groups and there is interest in using the ball games area if it was floodlit. The list of potential users includes regional organisations/governing bodies and local clubs, who wish to use that facility for training and for community activities, such a summer training camp for young people.</p> <p>The applicants' agent (Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council) has received no written evidence from residents regarding potential users' intentions.</p> <p>The documents and design calculations submitted as part of the planning application for floodlighting confirm that the proposed lighting has been designed in accordance with current guidelines.</p> <p>There are a number of similar floodlit facilities within the borough of Basingstoke and Deane Most are near to community facilities; and all within (or very close to) residential areas. The distance of the proposed lighting units to the nearest property has been considered as the lighting design has been developed. The design is such that virtually no light pollution will be dropped on neighbouring properties</p>

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	<p>Since the new ball court has been opened there have been two incidents of anti-social behaviour, once resulting police being called twice in the early hours of the morning following a party on the ball court. Local property was damaged and residents kept awake. The court is in danger of once again rapidly becoming a magnet for ASB because it is open to all and sundry all the time. On analysing your 'management plan' there is no clear provision to prevent this happening time and time again.</p> <p>BIGGER AND BETTER – OLYMPIC LEGACY</p> <p>On a very personal note I am alarmed at the lack of imagination and community minded thinking by the people behind this project. I am a senior advisor to the London Olympic Games 2012, and will continue to do so for a legacy programme and aware of some very special incentives available to local communities to celebrate the Olympic Games.</p> <p>Four Lanes has been entitled to a share of this Olympic year alone £250,000,000 for the building of a special sports facility to benefit the whole local community. This is granted by the government, and a further billion pounds over the next five years. There has been a remarkably poor take up from schools and clubs through the United Kingdom for this money. There is another billion pounds available over the next four years for schools.</p> <p>Imagine what Four Lanes could do given real imagination and some blue sky thinking that could provide a special building with an all-weather indoor multi-purpose facility suitable for all age groups and abilities to be built at the school available seven days a week, summer and winter. Use could be properly controlled and revenue streams beyond compare. The envy of Hampshire. Four Lanes is missing a trick here – the money is up for grabs. Build something that everybody can be proud of and not just enrage a very large and influential groups of the schools immediate neighbours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Nearby Resident</i> 	<p>There is no planning requirement for a management plan for the existing ball games facility. Ad-hoc usage of the ball games area in the evenings and at weekends has occurred virtually unsupervised since the ball games facility was installed in the 1990s and following the recently implemented improvements.</p> <p>The draft management plan seeks to formalise existing informal arrangements for managing the existing ball games area and put in place additional management systems for the times when the proposed floodlighting and pre-booking system would be operational.</p> <p>The management plan is not intended to address wider anti-social behaviour issues which cannot be directly attributed to the ball games area; however, the management regime outlined within the plan aims to minimise the occasions when the floodlighting will be operational without a member of the community centre staff being present on site and reduce the impact of the proposed floodlighting on adjoining properties by setting hours of operation, the applicants approach to dealing with inappropriate behaviour, etc.</p> <p>No response required.</p>

Ref	Summary of comment(s) made	Response by Applicant
16.	<p>I'm glad that the ball court has been improved and local children as well as school children are now able to use the lovely new facility. I have a fourteen year old son who has already been using it and he has told me how much better it is now.</p> <p>I do not wish for any floodlighting to be installed however. This is unnecessary in the warmer months as the daylight hours are sufficient. I personally cannot see that there will be a tremendous demand to book the facility at any time of day or night, since from experience we know that most of the non-school use is local boys who wish to play in a responsible, non-pre-booked fashion. I particularly do not want it used when there is no natural light. I am a local resident and I am all too aware of the type of person who will enjoy vandalizing this facility if it can be lit up until 9pm. Only a few weeks ago we were treated to the anti-social behaviour of this sort of person and the Police will confirm that they were called out in the middle of the night.</p> <p>I have read the management plan and unfortunately this appears to have put together in about 5 minutes without the necessary consideration for any supervision beyond 6 o'clock from Friday evening until Sunday night, i.e. prime-time for hoodlums. This is an amazing lack of foresight.</p> <p>I have just been informed that I may be too late responding to the plans but I will send this anyway. If the lighting is steam-rollered through then I hope the school has a budget for all the repairs and manpower involved in dealing with the trouble that will be attracted to Four Lanes school in the future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Nearby Resident</i> 	<p><u>Amendment to the management plan</u></p> <p>g) <i>As per amendment a) against response ref 4 on page 3.</i></p> <p>There is no planning requirement for a management plan for the existing ball games facility. Ad-hoc usage of the ball games area in the evenings and at weekends has occurred virtually unsupervised since the ball games facility was installed in the 1990s and following the recently implemented improvements.</p> <p>The draft management plan seeks to formalise existing informal arrangements for managing the existing ball games area and put in place additional management systems for the times when the proposed floodlighting and pre-booking system would be operational.</p> <p>The management regime outlined within the plan aims to minimise the occasions when the floodlighting will be operational without a member of the community centre staff being present on site; and it aims to reduce the impact of the proposed floodlighting on adjoining properties by setting hours of operation, the applicants approach to dealing with inappropriate behaviour, etc.</p> <p>No response required.</p>

5. Summary

- 5.1 The applicant has conducted a thorough and robust consultation exercise in relation to the proposed floodlighting and the management plan. Locally elected representatives and the police have expressed support for the proposal to floodlight the recently improved ball games area and for the management plan which outlines how the facility will be operated and managed.
- 5.2 All of the comments received to the consultation exercise have been considered by the applicant. As can be seen from the responses provided in the previous table, there is support in the community for a floodlit facility and with some minor amendments the concerns raised by those who object to the proposed floodlighting can by and large be addressed.
- 5.3 The applicant's willingness to produce, consult and amend a management plan shows him to be a good neighbour who takes his role in society responsibly; and this is reinforced by a commitment by the applicant to review and update the management plan on an annual basis.

LETTER ISSUED TO CONSULTEES

Our reference:
RW/RDPRO/CHN/009

3 July 2012

Dear Sir/Madam

FOUR LANES COMMUNITY JUNIOR SCHOOL – BALL GAMES AREA

The first phase of improvements to the school's ball games area was recently completed. This provided a purpose built ball games facility on the site of the former fenced facility. A second phase, which is to provide lighting to the improved ball games area, is also under development.

To this end, a planning application has been submitted to Hampshire County Council. This was considered by their Regulatory Committee in April 2012. Before making any decision on the planning application, the committee requested further details about how the ball games area would be managed; specifically the hours of operation of any lighting and how these would be managed outside of normal school hours.

The committee also requested that the content of a management plan was the subject of local consultation and that this should include affected residents, potential users, parents, local councillors and the parish council.

A management plan has been developed in conjunction with the school. This sets out the school's proposed approach to managing the ball games area and any approved lighting scheme. The draft of this management plan is now available for you to comment on and can be found at:

www.basingstoke.gov.uk/fourlanes

Prior to submission of the planning application for the lighting scheme, various concerns were raised with the school and the council. It is hoped that the contents of the management plan addresses these. Therefore, if you have any comments to make about the contents of the draft management plan, please send these via email to communityservices@basingstoke.gov.uk or in writing to:

Community Design and Regeneration
Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council
Civic Offices
London Road
Basingstoke
RG21 4AH

All comments should be made by no later than Thursday 26 July 2012.

Once comments have been received, these will be discussed with the junior school's head teacher and the Community Centre Manager; and where appropriate, changes will be made to the draft management plan. Thereafter, a final version of the management plan will be submitted to Hampshire County Council's regulatory committee to help them determine the recently submitted planning application.

Finally, if you do not have access to the internet, hard copies of the draft management plan are available in printed form. If you wish to receive a hard copy, or if you have any queries regarding the above, please contact me on 01256 845216.

Yours sincerely

Richard A Wareham

Community Design and Regeneration Manager

PLAN SHOWING NEARBY HOUSEHOLDS THAT CONSULTATION LETTER WAS ISSUED TO

