
From: Dale, Angela
Sent: 25 June 2021 08:49
To: Planning (SMDC)
Cc:
Subject: App Ref SMD /2021/0301

Categories:

Dear Planning,

Thank you for forwarding the plans for the proposed development on land at Draycott Sports Centre Ltd Cresswell Lane, Draycott In The Moors.

The following information provides more detailed comments regarding the opportunities relating to the Staffordshire Moorlands physical activity and sports strategy "Towards an Active Staffordshire Moorlands" 2017.

The proposal would mean the loss of two full size tennis courts which according to the Playing Pitch Strategy & Action Plan 2017 were identified as good. The demand for tennis in the area however is relatively low in comparison to the number of courts available so we would not see there being a big impact on availability in the area. The Playing Pitch Strategy suggested that all none club courts had spare capacity, and therefore the focus should be on improving the standard of the current courts to an adequate standard rather than increasing the number of courts.

The proposal of two new paddle courts to replace these would provide an excellent opportunity to increase the levels of physical activity in the area. The existing two courts would service a maximum of 8 people at a time for the duration of the matches and can only be used in fair weather whereas paddle tennis would allow for additional opportunities for physical activity as is played per hour. Paddle tennis lends itself to being an introduction to the full tennis game as well as being a sport in its own right and is therefore likely to encourage more people of all ages into the game.

The proposal for the smaller Junior court is likely to attract more children into the game but will also be suitable for the older population, or those wishing to play slightly less energetic game.

The project lends itself to further possibilities for the club to provide wider opportunities, which would not only be more attractive to local residents but could also create more interest for use by local schools and community groups. The wider engagement programme supports our own strategic aims offering more multisport use and increasing participation and physical activity.

The Sports Centre is set off a busy country lane so car parking is important to keep the road outside the club free from traffic. The proposal also includes some disability parking which is useful for attracting a key target group into the game. In addition to cars however they may need to consider attracting more people by alternative forms of transport so the addition of a cycle parking if it did not already exist at the site, may be included as a recommendation.

Regards

Ang

Angela Dale
Parks and Leisure – Service Commissioning
High Peak Borough Council and Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

Mobile:

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