Response to Planning Application SMD/2023/0349 Endon Cricket Club.

Dear Planning,

Thank you for forwarding the plans relating to planning application SMD/2023/0349.

The application refers to Endon Cricket Club and is requesting the approval for an additional changing facility to increase the size and capacity currently on offer.

The Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) 2017 highlighted the changing facilities at Endon Cricket Club were not up to standard and as there are two small changing rooms and they share one communal shower area. This means that any female teams are unable to use the areas at the same time. The recommendation from the PPS was to "look to create new ancillary provision at Endon CC to accommodate high levels of demand at the site".

Additionally, Staffordshire Moorlands District Council's new 'Move More Staffordshire Moorlands' strategy highlights how we are looking to refocus our efforts to enable those who currently do the least amount of activity to have improved opportunities. Various groups of our communities are less likely to be active and within that different locations within the Moorlands are disproportionately worse off. We are looking at ways in which we can work more effectively and in partnership with professional, community and voluntary organisations to help deliver the aspirations of the strategy.

We have five priorities within the strategy and one is based around providing a "safe, accessible and welcoming environments". This includes our parks, open spaces and sport facilities and looks to ensure that they are appropriate for the needs and in good condition. We are also informed that people are more likely to take part in activity if opportunities exist close to where they live.

Therefore, the improvement of the built facilities at Endon Cricket Club would be welcomed and supported by the Leisure and Recreation team. This will improve what are old changing facilities that do not meet the current needs of the club and wider community and bring them up to date to modern current standards and increase capacity. The new facilities will help to attract and retain old and new members and, in particular help to continue to build on the increase in female participation.

We would comment that to have just one single W/C in each changing facility may create problems in the usability of the facilities and we would ask if additional toilet facilities could be considered?

Thanks

Gareth Knapper – Service Development Officer

Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

Service Commissioning

Leisure & Recreation