

WOLSTON LEISURE & COMMUNITY CENTRE

Registered Charity No. 1090744

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10 August 2021

LETTER OF OBJECTION (IN PART)

Erica Buchanan
Principal Planning Officer
Rugby Borough Council
By email: erica.buchanan@rugby.gov.uk

Dear Madam

PLANNING APPLICATION: R18/0186 – COVENTRY STADIUM, RUGBY ROAD

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, this letter is a formal objection to the provision of a sports pitch. The applicant's intention is to offer '*alternative sports and recreational provision*' to meet one of the criteria required as part of the National Planning Policy Framework.

The proposed application is causing serious concern as we are located 1.6 miles from the Coventry Stadium and know of at least 10 other venues offering 3G pitch hire within an 8-mile radius. If this were to be approved then the competition ie targeting the same users within close proximity, could have a detrimental impact on the Centre's income. Our facility is used by several local football clubs (junior and senior teams), the residents of Wolston, Brandon, Bretford, Binley Woods, Brinklow and even groups from Coventry.

Having perused supporting documentation, it implies that a full-sized 3G pitch is needed within the Rugby Borough. However, the applicant's proposed timetable of use suggests the pitch would only be used as a full-sized 3G pitch for competitive football on Saturday afternoons. Therefore, this proposed new facility would only be accommodating **one** senior football team at a competitive level. The pitch would then be used for training purposes, no different to the facility we offer and the various other venues nearby.

As a registered charity, our main purpose is to serve the local community and surrounding villages. We are not Government funded and rely on the income generated from the services and facilities we provide.

The monies received from 3Gpitch hire is the second highest generator of income for the Centre. If the application were to be approved in its entirety, then this could potentially threaten the future of a local community building.

If there are any questions you would like to ask in respect of this objection, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

L Jones

Ms L Jones (Centre Manager)