

Proposed Community Astro Turf Pitch

Based at Prince Henry's Grammar School

As a group of organisations, we wanted to write to you to clarify some of the inaccuracies which have been stated recently regarding this project.

As you will be aware, following delays due to the pandemic, our contractors have now submitted a planning application for the community 3G pitch at Prince Henry's, with the support of our local partners and the Football Foundation. The planning application is now live for comment on the Leeds City Council Planning Portal.

The application includes several modifications from the application submitted two years ago, including:

- The pitch has been rotated to move it further from the majority of the neighbouring housing; the nearest house is now 31m away from the pitch;
- The acoustic fencing is being extended, to further reduce any noise and the ball fencing is to be fitted with rubber washers to reduce noise;
- The lighting has been further upgraded, with the lux level now reaching nil at ground level before the tree line to the west and the school buildings to the east;
- There will be no lighting from May to September inclusive and an 8pm curfew in October and April;
- There is an extensive environmental package, including a range of measures to support local wildlife and biodiversity, including a heated bat roost, considerable planting, a wildlife pond (which will work as part of the drainage for the pitch) and more;
- The proposed opening hours are 9am to 10pm Monday to Friday, 9am to 8pm Saturday and Sunday, with lighting, when in use, on automatic timers;
- Many of these innovations are exclusive to this project and were not in place in other pitches which have been mentioned.

As before:

- The pitch will be used primarily by Otley sports clubs, students from Prince Henry's and local primary school children. Leeds Utd and Bradford City may run development sessions or holiday camps for the young people of Otley.
- This facility will greatly improve the health and well-being of large numbers of the community through increased physical activity. Young to old, male and female—we already have commitments to run walking football and develop new girls' teams, for example.
- The proceeds from the pitch are reinvested into the pitch to make it sustainable. The business plan is put together with the Football Foundation to show that it doesn't make a loss/generate large profit.
- The funding for the pitch, which is not available for any other location in Otley, is mainly from grant applications to the Football Foundation and Sports England and community fundraising. If there is an application to Otley Town Council, it will be for a maximum of £100,000.

If you have any questions regarding the pitch, you can:

- View the full proposal on the Leeds City Council Planning Portal, reference 20/08447/FU;
- Contact Pippa McPherson, Admin Manager: Community, at Prince Henry's, through info@princehenrys.co.uk;
- Contact any of the Clubs below.

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Improving sports facilities and participation in Otley



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