DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

Installation of a new floodlighting system consisting of 6no 15m galvanised steel columns and 12no LED floodlights.

at

Dearne & District Football Club

Welfare Pitch

Goldthorpe

Rotherham

S63 9EH

July 2022

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DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Design and Access Statement is submitted in support of a full planning application for new LED directional sports lighting on new columns at Dearne & District Football Club. The statement sets out detailed design and access considerations relating to the proposed installation and demonstrates conformity to planning policy covering the relevant information with respect to the issues set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) The Design and Access Statement is to be read in conjunction with all the supporting application documents.

2.0 CLUB HISTORY

2.1 Dearne and District FC has been serving the local community for 40 years, having been formed in 1982. From humble beginnings, providing an outlet for local children to gain access to sport and become part of a community, the club has grown significantly, and is currently an FA Accredited 2 Club, but with the number of girls teams are in line for Accredited 3.

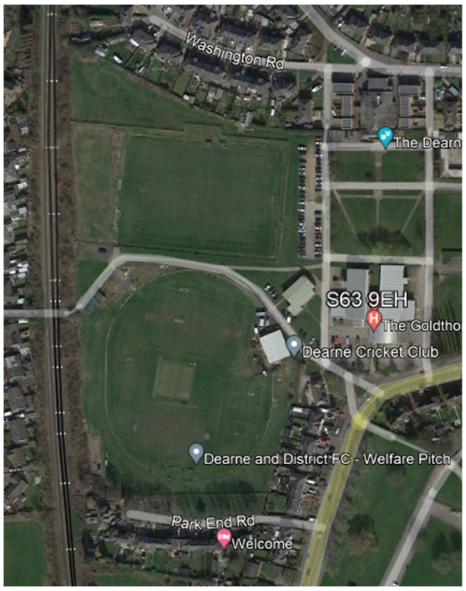
2.2 Through 27 teams playing football across 8 leagues, the club now has a diverse community of over 600 players, with age ranges starting from 3 – 40, and have created sporting opportunities for both boys and girls, with dedicated teams supporting disability football.

2.3 The Senior Team affiliates to The Central Midlands Premier League (Step 7). Other leagues for varying age groups include Central Midlands, Sheffield Girls and Ladies, Doncaster Junior League, Doncaster Junior girls, league Barnsley Junior League, Doncaster Rovers Sunday League, Selby and District.

3.0 PITCH AND LOCATION

3.1 The existing grass pitch is located to the Northwest of the main clubhouse building. There are residential areas to the North (Washington Road) and to the South beyond the training pitch (Furlong Road and Park End Road)

Photo 1: Google maps



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4.0 THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AND REASON FOR PROPOSAL

4.1 The proposal is to install 6No. 15m columns and install 12No. of the very latest directional LED floodlights. 2No. to each column. (See Appendix A, B and C)

4.2 Whilst grassroots continue to be the fundamental part of the club, they are closer than ever to reaching semi-professional status with the senior team, currently playing their football in the Central Midlands Premier League (Step 7) and being only 1 league away from having the opportunity to compete in the FA Cup. Once the club has installed floodlights, they will be able to enter the FA vase and apply for promotion to NCEL divisions. Floodlights are therefore required to be eligible for promotion, and to be able to offer more training sessions, evening games and community engagement at the club's own facility.

4.3 This development is part of a programme of improvements in facilities. Discussions between GrassRoots Power CIC and Dearne & District Football Club have taken place to ensure the best optical control is delivered, in keeping with LPA Planning Policy, whilst achieving lighting standards to National Governing Body specifications to minimise the local impact all well within the Institute of Lighting Professionals Guidance on light to buildings.

5.0 LIGHTING SYSTEM DESIGN AND CONSIDERATION

5.1 The design has taken account of key material planning considerations:

- Impact of floodlighting upon the character and appearance of the surrounding area.
- Impact of floodlighting upon neighbouring properties.
- Impact of floodlighting columns to the visual amenity.

5.2 The proposal is in accordance with National Planning Policy Framework and the proposed floodlighting solution meets the Institute of Lighting Professionals – Guidance Notes for the Reduction of Obtrusive Light.

5.3 The proposed lighting system comprises of 6No. 15-meter columns and Wiseman LED040 1350W with NST (Narrow Short Throw) Optics directional luminaires delivering 200 lux. (See Appendix A, B and C)

Photo 2 : Wiseman LED040



Photo 3: Wiseman LED040 Fitting aerial view



Photo 4 – Example of LED040 INSTALLATION (6 column layout)



5.4 The construction process comprises installing 6 new bases to accommodate the columns and electrical equipment from the main clubhouse building. The proposed finish of the columns will be tubular galvanised with the luminaires being a brushed dark grey finish. (See Appendix C and D)

5.5 The vertical light to buildings guidance is 5 lux and the attached lux illustration shows 0.57-1.00 Lux impact to the residential properties to the North and West. (See Appendix A)

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS

6.1 Reference to The Institute of Lighting Professionals: Guidance Notes for The Reduction of Obtrusive Light GN01:2011. The Guidance Notes categorises five zones ranging from E0 (Protected) to E4 (City Centres). The application falls within E3 Suburban – Medium District Brightness – Small town centres or suburban locations. (See Appendix E)

6.2 The proposed design delivers a scheme that falls within the planning guidance of The Institute of Lighting Professionals, although, additional consideration has been given to the proximity of the neighbouring properties when selecting the lighting technology and the Wiseman LED040 LED has advance optical glare and spill control. The limit of vertical light to windows will not exceed 5 lux. One key issue to consider is the different types of LED sports lighting technology available which produce very different outcome on spill and glare. The club have taken great lengths to review the different manufacturers.

7.0 VISUAL IMPACT

7.1 It is considered the visual impact of the installation will be minimal with columns located at pitch corners and centreline only.

8.0 TIMES OF USE

8.1 The proposed usage of the lighting will be as follows: (winter months)
Monday – Fridays 1800hrs - 2200hrs, Saturdays 1430 – 1830, Sundays 1430 – 1830

9.0 ACCESS AND PARKING

9.1 Access to the facilities will continue to be via the existing main entrance and parking arrangements remain unaltered.

10.0 DRAINAGE

10.1 The works will not impact or change any existing drainage arrangements.

11.0 ECOLOGY

11.1 The primary use of the lighting will be during the winter (November to Easter) and the directional lighting is confined to lighting the playing areas. As the use is outside the season where bats would be foraging, and the level is 200 lux on the playing area a bat survey has not been commissioned.

12.0 NOISE

12.1 The park has been used for football for many years. The application for lighting will enable participation in a higher standard of football, although, during summer months the facility can already be used at these times. Noise has been considered, although not seen as a nuisance due to the existing use of the facility all year. When the lighting is used it is winter months when windows and doors of the neighbours will likely to be closed. It is also less likely for residents to be in their gardens during dark winter months.

13.0 RECENT PLANNING HISTORY

13.1 Planning permission was granted for a new pavilion on the site under reference 2018/1421. The application permitted on 28/01/2019.

14.0 ASSESSING THE IMPACTS AND BENEFITS

14.1 The national policy framework requires an assessment approach, that weighs the extent of the benefits against any environmental impacts. The advantage of this proposed development is that it will deliver a combination of education, social, economic, health and wellbeing benefits, arising from Dearne and District FC playing at a higher league level inspiring the youth section of the club.

Benefits to Dearne & District Football Club.

14.2 The improved facilities will benefit the club and enable the local community to support a higher level of football played at Welfare Park. Benefits include

- Evening use through the winter months.
- Making the club more sustainable by extending the hours of use
- Improved facilities and evening use will bring more revenue to the club.
- Is likely to boost club membership and football supporter numbers in general

15.0 LIGHTING IMPACT

15.1 The attached lighting design report (Appendix A), provides details of the level of illumination the proposed lighting scheme will produce. The scheme incorporates the latest LED technology to ensure that light spillage beyond the pitch area is kept at an absolute minimum. As demonstrated from the below tables taken from the ILP Guidance to planners and system designers the proposed lighting system is within Zone E3 Suburban – Medium District Brightness – Small town centres or suburban locations. (See Appendix E)

Table 1 – Environmental Zones			
Zone	**Surrounding**	**Lighting Environment**	**Examples**
E0	Protected	Dark	UNESCO Starlight Reserves, IDA Dark Sky Parks
E1	Natural	Intrinsically dark	National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty etc
E2	Rural	Low district brightness	Village or relatively dark outer suburban locations
E3	Suburban	Medium district brightness	Small town centres or suburban locations
E4	Urban	High district brightness	Town/city centres with high levels of night-time activity

Table 2 – Obtrusive Light Limitations for Exterior Lighting Installations – General Observers						
Environmental Zone	**Sky Glow ULR [Max %] (1)**	**Light Intrusion (into Windows) E_v [lux] (2)**		**Luminaire Intensity I [candelas] (3)**		**Building Luminance Pre-curfew (4)**
		Pre-curfew	**Post-curfew**	**Pre-curfew**	**Post-curfew**	**Average, L [cd/m²]**
E0	0	0	0	0	0	0
E1	0	2	0 (1*)	2,500	0	0
E2	2.5	5	1	7,500	500	5
E3	5.0	10	2	10,000	1,000	10
E4	15	25	5	25,000	2,500	25

16.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

16.1 This Design and Access Statement has explained the need for the proposed directional lighting and described the many benefits that the development would bring.

16.2 The new and improved facilities that the proposed development would bring would not only enable the club to further develop it playing standards it would enable the use of the pitch during the winter months, expanding opportunities for the local community to enjoy the club's success and use of facilities.

16.3 The educational, health and significant social and economic benefits arising from this proposed development should be considered alongside the environmental impacts that have been mitigated.

16.4 The comprehensive lighting design has shown that careful positioning and design of the new columns and choice of manufacturer will minimise the visual impact both at night and during the day.

16.5 The national and local planning policy framework provides support for carefully designed recreational and sporting development of the type proposed by Dearne & District FC. The proposed development will bring significant social and economic benefits and have no material adverse impacts and is therefore consistent with the policy framework. On this basis, the planning application should be approved.

16.6 The future is exciting, for the first time in the clubs history it now has a defined pathway that sets out a structured route for young children in the local areas to have the opportunity to progress from development football, right the way through to professional.

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GrassRoots Power CIC
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