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Our Ref

23rd March 2021

Dear Elaine,

**Land at Sheffield Road (planning permission ref: 2020/0647)
Discharge of Planning Condition 44 (ball stop mitigation).**

I write in respect of an application to discharge the above condition which was made today via the Planning Portal (ref: PP-09661736).

Newlands Developments have held a series of meetings with The Forge Community Trust and Rockingham Cricket Club to agree on a proportionate and practical risk mitigation for the cricket club's everyday use.

It is proposed that boundary protection to the west is installed at a maximum height of 12m over a length of approximately 100m (see plan ref: HOYLA-RPS-SI-XX-DR-CR-SK9100 rev P2). This will be a permanent installation with the option for the netting to be removed outside the playing season. Once installed the maintenance of the netting is to be managed by Rockingham Cricket Club through Newlands Developments.

The boundary protection would provide an additional 10m to that currently provided by the existing 2.4m high security fence along this perimeter.

The proposed design, type and location of the boundary protection is included at plan ref: HOYLA-RPS-SI-XX-DR-CR-SK9100 rev P2 .

The 12m height has been assessed using the guidance example trajectories contained with the Labosport report (as Annex A) and dialogue with Rockingham Cricket Club and their insurers.

It is understood that Rockingham Cricket Club (as end user) has confirmed they are in agreement to this proposed height and have received acceptance through their insurers that this protection satisfies a third party risk through a duty of care for persons and property, where a ball strike is foreseeable. The height of the netting is informed by a risk assessment to provide a practical solution to lowering risk to members of the public to a proportionate level.

It is noted that the proposed height differs to that advised by Labosport¹ which suggested boundary protection of 24m high to the from the shortest distance from the cricket square to the boundary and 25m high to from the shortest distance from the cricket square to the edge of the new link road. It is understood that following further investigation the proposals in the Labosport report would be difficult to implement due to space constraints within the Rockingham cricket pitch and the adjoining highway embankment boundary would not permit the required footprint of a pylon structure construction. This would have a direct detrimental impact on the everyday use of the cricket facility.

¹ In the Labosport report submitted within the planning application.

It is considered that the proposed 12m high ball stop mitigation will fulfil the requirements of the condition and the needs of Rockingham Cricket Club.

I trust the above and attached are in order and will enable condition 44 to be discharged swiftly. However, should you have any questions or require any further information please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Katharine Morgan MRTPI
Associate, Development and Planning

ANNEX A

Guide Cricket Ball Trajectories

