Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre

Refurbishment of existing external Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) to form an extended pitch area accommodating a full sized playing enclosure for football activities with new artificial grass pitch surface, new perimeter ball-stop fencing, new hard standing areas for pedestrian access, goals storage and vehicular maintenance access; outdoor storage for maintenance equipment

Design and Access Statement with Planning Statement

Client	Barnsley Premier Leisure c/o Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre Snydale Road Cudworth Barnsley S72 8LH		
Project	Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) Refurbishment		
SSL project code	SSL2221		
Document title	Design and Access Statement with Planning Statement		
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1. Introduction

1.1 Surfacing Standards Ltd has been appointed to consider and develop an application for full planning permission for the proposed development at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre.

1.2 In order to assist the application for full planning permission and to facilitate the implementation and delivery of the project; this document describes the project aspirations and illustrates the process that has led to the development proposal, and to explain and justify the proposal in a structured way.

1.3 This statement discusses design and access issues regarding the use, amount, layout, scale, landscaping, appearance and context of the scheme. In addition, the wider access implications of the proposal are addressed.

1.4 The proposed development is located at:

Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre
Snydale Road
Cudworth
Barnsley
S72 8LH

1.5 The applicant is:

Barnsley Premier Leisure on behalf of Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
c/o Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre
Snydale Road
Cudworth
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Joni Millthorpe
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1.6 The planning agent is:

Surfacing Standards Ltd
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Consultant

2. Design and Access Statement Principles

2.1. The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It sets out the Government's requirements for the planning system only to the extent that it is relevant, proportionate and necessary to do so. It provides a framework within which local people and their accountable councils can produce their own distinctive local and neighbourhood plans, which reflect the needs and priorities of their communities.

2.2 Guidance on information requirements and validation, published by the Department for Communities and Local Government (March 2012) recommends that a design and access statement is a short report accompanying and supporting a planning application to illustrate the process that has led to the development proposal, and to explain the proposal in a structured way. The level of detail required in a design and access statement depends on the scale and complexity of the application, and the length of the statement varies accordingly. Statements must be proportionate to the complexity of the application, but need not be long. Further published recommendations are:

- Design and access statements help to ensure that development proposals are based on a thoughtful design process and a sustainable approach to access.
- Statements should improve the quality of proposals: in preparing the design and access statement, developers need to consider and subsequently explain the merit of the design and how it relates to the existing setting.
- Design and access statements enable local planning authorities to better understand the analysis which has underpinned the design and how it has led to the development of the scheme. This helps negotiations and decision-making and should lead to an improvement in the quality, sustainability and inclusiveness of the development.
- Design and access statements allow local communities, access groups, amenity groups and other stakeholders to involve themselves more directly in the planning process without needing to interpret plans that can be technical and confusing. This helps to increase certainty for people affected by development and improve trust between communities, developers and planners. It also enables the design rationale for the proposal to be more transparent to stakeholders and the local planning authority.

2.3 What Is Required: The Design Component

The design and access statement should cover both the design principles and concepts that have been applied to the proposed development and how issues relating to access to the development have been dealt with. Statements should evolve throughout the design and development process.

A design and access statement for a planning application should explain the design principles and concepts that have been applied to particular aspects of the proposal. These are:

- Scale: Scale is the height, width and length of a building or buildings in relation to its surroundings.
- Amount: The amount of development is how much development is proposed. For residential development, this means the number of proposed units for residential use and for all other development, this means the proposed floor space for each proposed use.
- Layout: The layout is the way in which buildings, routes and open spaces (both private and public) are provided, placed and orientated in relation to each other and buildings and spaces surrounding the development.
- Landscaping: Landscaping is the treatment of private and public spaces to enhance or protect the amenities of the site and the area in which it is situated through hard and soft landscaping measures. Statements should also explain the function of the landscaping, for instance for sustainable drainage purposes, providing shading or other climate change adaptation purposes, and explain how it will be maintained.
- Appearance: Appearance is the aspect of a place or building that determines the visual impression it makes, including the external built form of the development, its architecture, materials, decoration, lighting, colour and texture.

2.4 What Is Required: The Access Component

It is important to note that the requirement for the access component of the statement relates only to 'access to the development' and therefore does not extend to internal aspects of individual buildings. Statements should explain how access arrangements will ensure that all users will have equal and convenient access to buildings and spaces and the public transport network. The statement should address the need for flexibility of the development and how it may adapt to changing needs.

3. Design and Access Statement

3.1 Proposal Description

This application seeks planning permission for the refurbishment of an existing external Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP).

The proposed refurbishment of the existing external artificial sports pitch (decommissioned in 2009 once deemed to be unsafe to use) will replace the pitch surface (including a minor extension to the playing area footprint) which is necessary to renew life cycle and functionality, along with replacement ball-stop fencing, clean access and site furniture, maintenance equipment and associated storage and replacement floodlights; all required to modernise the sports pitch in accordance with The Football Association's (FA) technical guidance and current standards.

Proposed construction works necessary to implement this project include:

- Resurfacing and minor extension of existing Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) pitch surface with new 3G artificial grass to accommodate an 11v11 football pitch sized 106 x 70m.
- Installation of new 4.5m high ball stop fencing to the new pitch perimeter to replace existing high level fencing.
- Installation of new 1.20m to 2.00m high pitch perimeter barrier internally within the pitch enclosure, to segregate the playing area from adjoining new respect spectator area.
- Creation of six new hard standing areas adjoining the pitch perimeter complete with associated porous asphalt surfacing and matching ball stop fencing for pedestrian access, goals storage, spectator viewing space and vehicular maintenance access.
- Installation of a new maintenance / sports equipment storage container located within the fenced enclosure.
- Replacement of an existing floodlight system.

3.2 Site Description



The application site is situated within a predominantly residential area of Cudworth, approximately 5km to the North East of Barnsley town centre.

The subject area forms part of Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre, which comprises a redundant artificial sports pitch surfaced with artificial grass, floodlights present on the Northern and Southern extents of the pitch and concrete spectator terracing excavated into the side of existing embankments, located along the Northern and Western pitch extents.

The spectator terracing to the North is formed within a grassed bund approximately 3m in height.

Similar spectator terracing to the West is constructed within the existing natural grassed embankment and based on readily available information data, this indicates a general fall of land in the area to the South East towards tributaries of the River Dearne.

Site boundaries are defined by metal fencing to the Southern and Eastern pitch perimeter.

The Northern boundary is defined by a concrete wall.

The Western boundary remains as an existing grassed embankment.

An attempt to trace the history of the site has been carried out by reviewing readily available Ordnance Survey maps.

The earliest map dated from the 1850's records the site as open fields.

Allotment gardens were recorded in 1906 close to the Northern site boundary.

The site appears to form playing fields from around the 1960's with a series of embankments and cuttings recorded to the South (assumed terraced to facilitate a playing field).

Since 1984 the site immediately to the South was recorded as Dorothy Hyman Stadium.

3.3 Coal Mining

The Coal Authority advises the site is located within an area where coal has been extracted.

As a consequence, we have instructed the Coal Authority to carry out a search of their records centred on the development site.

A copy of their report is presented in SSL2221 Appendix E that supplements this application (CON29M Non-Residential Mining Report).

The property is located on the area which could be affected by underground mining in seven seams of coal between 320m and 720m depth.

Seams were last worked in 1980 and all ground movement should have stopped. Given the depth to such mines, it is considered that the development is at negligible risk from potential land instability associated with roof collapse of any old abandoned workings.

The property is not within a surface area that could be affected by present underground mining.

There are no known coal mine entries within, or within 20 metres of, the boundary of the property.

It should also be noted that the report indicates a coal mining subsidence claim has been submitted, associated with a residential property opposite the site located at 109 Snydale Road. The report indicates that there is no record of request to carry out preventative works. There is no further information, however, evidence suggests that the claim may have been rejected by The Coal Authority and was not deemed to be associated with coal mining legacy.

3.4 Purpose and Use

The provision of the new external 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) will benefit Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre and its associated sports clubs and partner organisations to gain the maximum football developmental outcomes; both during the day and during evenings and at weekends via pre-arranged and structured community access.

The proposed 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) will satisfy demand in the community and this facility will provide vital capabilities for football.

Consistent with the current provision, this extended use is possible because the proposed AGP is more durable in comparison to natural turf and especially during winter weather conditions.

The proposed AGP also avoids close season maintenance works.

The new AGP will offer a variety of football pitches and training areas within the same enclosed playing space to support development plans into grassroots football.

In accordance with The Football Association's (FA) current technical guidance, the intention is to introduce multiple pitch markings to gain the maximum football developmental outcomes and economic benefit from the site footprint.

The pitch will be capable of supporting the following formal pitch arrangement:

Age grouping	Type	Pitch size	Quantity
Over 18 and Adult Football	11v11	100 x 64m	1

Youth U11 / U12*	9v9	63.8 x 45.9m	2
Mini Soccer U9 / U10**	7v7	55 x 37m	2
Mini Soccer U7 / U8* **	5v5	37 x 27m	4
Training Areas**	Various	48 x 30m	4
*Smaller than recommended size, but acceptable for match play use			
**the variety of over markings will be agreed in due course, to be considered against the football development plan			

3.5 Amount

The proposed development has been prepared in accordance with published Design Guidance Notes (The Football Association (FA) / Sport England) pertinent to external artificial sports facility provision.

The 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) design is in accordance with The FA Guide to 3G Football Turf Pitch Design Principles and Layouts. The proposed amount of development is:

Aspect	**Quantity**	**Area**
3G artificial grass pitch area	1no. 106 x 70m	7420m2
Hard standing area – Goal storage area longitudinal along Northern AGP	2no. 7.5 x 2m	15m2
Hard standing area – Goal storage area longitudinal along Southern AGP	1no. 7.5 x 2m	15m2
Hard standing area – Respect spectator area (and one goal store) longitudinal along Southern AGP	1no. 76.245 x 4m	305m2
Hard standing area – Goal storage area lateral along Western AGP	1no. 30 x 3m	90m2
Hard standing area – Goal storage area lateral along Eastern AGP	1no. 30 x 3m	90m2
PCC slab surfaced mowing margin	1no. 380 x 0.6m	228m2
Total		**8163m2**

3.6 Layout

The subject area is an established external Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) located within the grounds of Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre.

Surrounding land uses include:

North – Residential (Belle Green Gardens / East View)
West – Sport, recreation and leisure / Residential beyond (Snydale Road)
South – Sport, recreation and leisure
East – Sport with Residential beyond

The existing AGP contains even topography which are compliant to the maximum gradients, falls and slopes demanded for modern artificial grass football pitches.

Land surrounding the existing AGP which is required to achieve an extended facility footprint elevates acutely to the West (a grass embankment) and to the North (a substantial grass mound).

As such, existing ground levels to the extended areas must be adjusted and re-modelled as necessary to achieve symmetry to longitudinal and lateral profiles, which is required for technical compliance in accordance with FA recommendations (maximum 1% slope).

Consequently, we anticipate that a grass embankment and grass mound will be reconstructed around the Western and Northern AGP perimeters respectively, in order to connect the new facility to adjacent land once the extended facility footprint is established.

The existing artificial grass pitch follows an approximate West to East orientation, which is not consistent with Sport England's recommendation that the preferred direction for the main playing direction for pitches should follow an approximate North to South orientation (between 345˚ and 15˚) due to the effect of the setting sun and to resist blinding players at sun set. There is no opportunity to adjust the main playing direction, however this should not prohibit the intended refurbishment.

Whilst preparing this proposal, a condition survey was undertaken to form an assessment and appraisal of physical properties and condition and features of the existing AGP, which is built with the following features:

Facility size	The Total Playing Area (TPA), which is the area within the sports facility where the player can move freely (for example the space within a fenced enclosure consisting of both the pitch and run-offs); is approximately sized 105 x 67.5m. The Principal Playing Area (PPA), which is the field of play within the sports facility where the ball remains within play (for example within the goal lines and touchlines lines of a football pitch); is sized 93 x 60m. The artificial grass pitch surface covers and area approximately sized 102 x 64m.

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	The remaining area within the TPA is occupied by porous asphalt.
Pitch surfacing	The playing surface comprises sand-filled artificial grass 20mm thick overlying and in situ formed shock pad. The turf contains a latex coated backing and drainage pores (approximately 2mm Ø) over the entire surface area at 100mm centres. The shock pad consists of graded rubber granules, bound with moisture curing single component polyurethane (PUR), circa 15mm thick. A shock pad sample was collected to facilitate laboratory testing to establish remaining performance characteristics and compatibility with future sporting activities. Laboratory test results are as follows: Shock absorption – 46.3 % Tensile Strength – 0.11 MPa Thickness – 15.7 mm Results confirm that the existing shock pad performance fails in respect of shock absorption and tensile strength when compared to properties documented within FIFAs Handbook of Requirements and should therefore be removed during refurbishment works.
Pitch base	The pitch base includes open textured macadam containing a 10mm nominal size aggregate (porous asphalt) wearing course overlaying a compacted aggregate foundation.
Pitch drainage	No evidence of a positive drainage system serving the pitch was found during the survey.
Pitch restraint	The artificial grass playing surface is restrained with hydraulic pressed pre-cast concrete (PCC) edgings, 50mm wide and bedded within a concrete bed and haunch to define the playing area. These edgings are generally sound with a true line and level and contain an approximate 35mm up-stand above the pitch base to restrain the sand-filled artificial turf and shock pad.
Pitch access	Access to the pitch is provided by a pathway adjoining the Southern pitch perimeter. This paved surface comprises medium textured porous asphalt including circa 6mm nominal sized aggregate. The paving appears structurally intact.
Perimeter fencing	Ball-stop fencing encloses the pitch along Southern and Eastern perimeters and partially along the Northern Eastern perimeter for a short distance. The fencing system ranges from 2.8m to 4.7m high and comprises 50x50x3.55mm galvanised rolled welded mesh (galvanised) clad onto an intermediate post system and fixed to the post system with clips to tensioned line wires. Double leaf gates (for pedestrian and vehicle access) are erected in line with the perimeter fencing along the Southern pitch perimeter. Timber kickboards (sized 300 x 50mm) are installed to the foot of internal elevations.
Floodlights	The existing lighting system contains 8no. galvanised steel octagonal base-hinged masts 15m high each carrying 3no. luminaires (24no. in total) in a 3 / 3 / 3 / 3 arrangement. Manufacturer labels indicate that masts and floodlight luminaires (Optivision) were supplied by Abacus Lighting. The artificial (flood) light system shows evidence of wear with much corrosion to metallic components.
Pitch slope and profile	Longitudinal slopes along the artificial grass pitch range between 870mm to 890mm over a 105m distance, whilst the lateral profile across the artificial grass pitch range between 180mm to 200mm over a 67.5m distance.

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	The combined slope is 1.07m across the diagonal axis. Pitch topography is generally even (to acceptable limits) and consistent with modern construction tolerances and technical requirements for artificial football pitches, where no single or combined axis should exceed 1% (1:100) surface gradient.
Pitch surface regularity	Given the acute surface contamination across the playing area, it was not possible to conduct a surface regularity survey.
Construction access	The access route for construction traffic is likely to be gained from service accesses to the Sports Centre adjoining Snydale Road.

The proposed refurbished external Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) will be sited close to existing onsite facilities; providing convenient access to and from changing rooms offering changing accommodation and administration facilities.

This location will also afford convenient pedestrian, maintenance and emergency access as well and providing for suitable management, supervision and security.

The close proximity of existing facilities described above will help to create a vibrant and successful place and a safe and accessible environment.

3.7 Scale

The proposed height of new open steel mesh ball stop fencing and entrance gates around the entire pitch perimeter enclosing the AGP is 4.5m above ground level.

The proposed height of new open steel mesh pitch perimeter barrier and entrance gates immediately surrounding and enclosing the AGP internally within the pitch enclosure is 1.2m to 2.0m above ground level.

The proposed floodlight system comprises six (6no.) masts mounted with sixteen luminaires at a height of 15m high above ground level to the AGP in a 2no. / 3no. / 2no. arrangement along Northern and Southern longitudinal sides of the AGP.

The proposed lighting system along a new pedestrian access comprises nine (9no.) masts mounted with one luminaire each (9no. in total) at a height of 6m high above ground level.

The proposed height of new outdoor maintenance equipment store is 2.59m above ground level.

3.8 Landscaping

It is acknowledged that the proposed development will replace areas of the existing amenity grass land abutting the existing Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP).

With the exception of hard landcaping, all other soft ground surrounding theaffected by the development shall be reinstated to grass (soft landscaping) to enable effective grounds maintenance to surrounding amenity grassed areas.

Soil shall be reinstated to grass (soft landscaping) in accordance with BS 4428 Code of Practice for General Landscape Operations.

New hard landscaping treatment around the facility is restricted to porous asphalt surfacing for pedestrian access, goals storage, spectator viewing space and vehicular maintenance access.

3.9 Appearance

The intention is develop the pitch with minimal visual impact when viewed from any adjacent properties looking into the Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP), which is necessary to satisfy Local Policies which seek to ensure that proposals are sympathetic to its surroundings and will not impact on the visual amenity of the area and the amenity of neighbouring residents.

The proposed finished appearance of principal pitch features is as follows:

3G Artificial Grass Playing Surface

The installed appearance of the playing surface will comprise a 3G artificial grass, coloured grass green and containing a 60mm pile and partially in-filled with silica sand (for stability) and granulate rubber (for performance).

This is consistent with current Football Association (FA) technical requirements to deliver adequate performance characteristics for the intended sports.

This surface type is recognised as the most suitable artificial playing surface for community football and youth development.

This surface type is credited as 'surface for high level competition / training – national / international' and 'preferred football surface' within Sport England's guidance document 'Selecting the Right Artificial Surface for Hockey, Football, Rugby League and Rugby Union' Issue 002 / December 2010.

Perimeter Ball-Stop Fencing

The installed appearance of perimeter ball-stop fencing and the pitch perimeter barrier will be finished to polyester powder coated RAL6005 Dark Green, all supported with an intermediate posts system of matching colour.

The proposed type and quality of ball-stop fencing is consistent with current Football Association (FA) technical requirements for fencing to enclose artificial grass pitches.

The fencing type will be steel open mesh fencing containing a general 200x50mm aperture (and 66x50mm rebound aperture to the pitch perimeter barrier). Fence panels are insulated from the posts using neoprene washers to be fitted to every fence post / mesh fixing point to aid noise reduction and acoustic attenuation by reducing rattle and vibration from ball impacts. Panels are fixed onto posts with 8mm galvanised security bolts to (U shape) brackets containing threaded inserts and neoprene washers (inserts) to reduce panel rattle and vibration from ball impacts. Panel connectors are applied at horizontal panel joins to increase the overall rigidity of the product.

Floodlights

The installed appearance of the new artificial lighting system will include six (6no.) 15m high sectional octagonal mid-hinge steel masts finished galvanised (Z275) self-coloured, mounted with fourteen (14no.) luminaires c/w 2kW lamps and fittings finished raw aluminium aimed over the proposed Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) to provide an adequate lighting performance for football competition and training activities.

Hard Standing Areas

The installed appearance of hard standing areas (clean access for pedestrians and spectators as well as vehicular access for maintenance and emergency) will be coloured grey / black coloured porous asphalt.

Maintenance Equipment Storage Container

The installed appearance of the new storage containers includes high tensile rust inhibiting corten steel, finished dark green in colour with polyester powder coating and with steel ramps for easy equipment access and egress.

3.10 Pedestrain And Vehicular Access

The new Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) will be secured within the existing boundaries of Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre to maintain site security out of permitted operational hours.

Pedestrian access during the day and during evenings and weekends is provided from the existing entrances off Snydale Road.

For pitch users arriving by car, the close proximity of onsite car parking is ideal for community involvement and participation.

Existing onsite parking areas, public transport and green travel initiatives including walking and cycling will continue to be available for community users.

The expected usage of the facility will be continue to enjoyed by primarily local organisations and it is therefore expected that the requirement for car parking will be satisfied by existing onsite parking arrangements, offering ample space to accommodate users of the proposed pitch travelling by car.

It is therefore concluded that onsite parking provision can accommodate the expected vehicular traffic during operational hours.

3.11 Inclusive Access

Disabled access has been carefully considered throughout the whole design and applied wherever possible. The intention is to provide a smooth transition to and from areas within the sports ground, for use by people of all ages and abilities.

The site is compatible currently for disability parking and access with appropriate circulation routes.

All pedestrian paths shall be compliant with Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) regulations and Sport England's Technical Design Guidance Note 'Accessible Sports Facilities 2010'.

The proposed pitch playing surface to the shall replicate the qualities of fine sports turf.

4. Planning Statement

4.1 Planning Policy

We understand that decisions must be taken in accordance with the development plan policies below, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

4.2 National Planning Policy Framework (2012)

Achieving Sustainable Development

7. There are three dimensions to sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. These dimensions give rise to the need for the planning system to perform a number of roles:

- *an economic role – contributing to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right type is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth and innovation; and by identifying and coordinating development requirements, including the provision of infrastructure;*
- *a social role – supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by providing the supply of housing required to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by creating a high quality built environment, with accessible local services that reflect the community's needs and support its health, social and cultural well-being; and*
- *an environmental role – contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; and, as part of this, helping to improve biodiversity, use natural resources prudently, minimise waste and pollution, and mitigate and adapt to climate change including moving to a low carbon economy.*

Section 8 – Promoting Healthy Communities

73. Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision is required.

74. Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- *an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or*
- *the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or*
- *the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.*

Section 10 – Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change, Flooding and Coastal Change

103. When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should ensure flood risk is not increased elsewhere and only consider development appropriate in areas at risk of flooding where, informed by a site-specific flood risk assessment following the Sequential Test, and if required the Exception Test, it can be demonstrated that:

- *within the site, the most vulnerable development is located in areas of lowest flood risk unless there are overriding reasons to prefer a different location; and*
- *development is appropriately flood resilient and resistant, including safe access and escape routes where required, and that any residual risk can be safely managed, including by emergency planning; and it gives priority to the use of sustainable drainage systems.*

104. For individual developments on sites allocated in development plans through the Sequential Test, applicants need not apply the Sequential Test. Applications for minor development and changes of use should not be subject to the Sequential or Exception Tests but should still meet the requirements for site-specific flood risk assessments.

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Sustainable Drainage Systems
Non-statutory technical standards for sustainable drainage systems
March 2015

The surface water drainage scheme must be in accordance with the Non-Statutory Technical Standards for Sustainable Drainage Systems (March 2015) or any subsequent replacement national standards and unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority, no surface water shall discharge to the public sewerage system either directly or indirectly.

Section 11 – Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment

123. Planning policies and decisions should aim to:

- *avoid noise from giving rise to significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life as a result of new development;*
- *mitigate and reduce to a minimum other adverse impacts on health and quality of life arising from noise from new development, including through the use of conditions;*
- *recognise that development will often create some noise and existing businesses wanting to develop in continuance of their business should not have unreasonable restrictions put on them because of changes in nearby land uses since they were established; and*
- *identify and protect areas of tranquility which have remained relatively undisturbed by noise and are prized for their recreational and amenity value for this reason.*

125. By encouraging good design, planning policies and decisions should limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation.

4.3 Material Planning Considerations

Having reviewed the Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council's local validation checklist, we acknowledge the following material planning considerations relevant to the proposal include:

- Compliance with relevant planning policy guidance, local development plans and policies
- Principal of development to enable Sport England's informed assessment of whether the proposed benefits to sport associated with development would be sufficient to outweigh the detriment associated with the impact on the playing field and satisfy exception policy E5 of Sport England's playing fields policy 'A Sporting Future for the Playing Fields of England 1997'
- Design and impact upon the character and appearance of the surrounding area
- Adequate impact mitigation to residential neighbours (protecting visual amenity and residential amenity)
- Lighting impact assessment
- Sustainable Drainage Assessment / Sustainable Drainage Operation and Maintenance Plan (Flood Risk Assessment)

Information to satisfy these critical factors is discussed below.

4.4 Assessment of Planning Issues

We believe the proposal is in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council's policies specifically in the following policy terms:

4.5 Achieving Sustainable Development

The National Planning Policy Framework introduced a presumption in favour of sustainable development and this can be set out as three dimensions – Economic Role, Social Role and Environmental Role.

This proposal aims to contribute to the above areas.

- Economic Role – providing a self-funding facility for use by Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre and its partner organisations.
- Social Role – providing modern facilities that will encourage the maximum football developmental outcomes with the benefits to health and wellbeing associated with this.
- Environmental Role – ensuring that the existing natural environment is not harmed and that facilities are designed to conserve and reduce energy wastage wherever possible.

In a sporting context, this proposal seeks to:

- Provide opportunities for the local community and sports organisations to participate in sport and physical activity for health improvement and development of their skills, particularly amongst low participant groups;
- Operate in line with the national agenda for sport taking into account nationally adopted strategies;
- Generate positive attitudes in sport and physical activity by young people and reducing the dropout rate in sports participation with age;
- Increase the number of people of all ages and abilities participating in sport and physical activity including people with disabilities;

- Use the facilities to encourage the range, quality and number of sports club links and to stimulate competition that is inclusive of young people and adults;
- Provide affordable access to the facilities and to be self-financing in terms of community use;
- Contribute to The Football Association's strategic objectives for grassroots football development;
- Satisfy competition play and training needs with a robust sustainable business plan to monitor the delivery of the football development plan on a regular basis. The committee will review a variety of objectives and controls to correctly manage, adequately operate and maintain the facility;
- Ensure the AGP, once subjected to performance testing to validate necessary quality standards, is added to the FA register of approved sites for match play.

Maintenance Considerations and Sustainability

Maintenance of the the Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) will be managed by Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre's grounds team on a daily and weekly basis with specialist contractors utilised as necessary to perform specialised reports and annual and biannual maintenance routines.

A sinking fund will be developed using the income from community hire in order to replace the artificial grass surface at the end of its working life, along with other necessary refurbishment works.

Energy and Waste Reduction

The proposed development will require the substantial removal and refurbishment of an existing Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP); however a variety of efficiencies will be applied to the construction stage to mitigate environmental impact and benefit the carbon footprint of the development.

Significant reduction in the use of energy and / or water, and reduce waste in the construction and operation of the facility will be achieved by:

- Excavations limited to the removal of turf and topsoil only.
- Imported granular sub-base aggregates to form the pitch foundations shall be locally sourced from local quarries or suppliers to reduce transportation
- The implementation of the development does not require water supplies.
- Control gears for the floodlight system shall include photocell units and time clocks, to ensure artificial lighting does not illuminate before dusk and lighting does not exceed the permitted curfew hour.
- For the existing synthetic turf playing surface, it is now possible for artificial turf surfaces to be recycled at the end of their life cycle and be re-made into new similar surfaces or other products.
- For the proposed artificial grass playing surface, modern textile manufacturing methods and technology continues to advance. It can be expected that technologies will enable this environmental sustainable recycling to be common place in the future, to the benefit of this proposal when refurbishment is due at the end of the next life cycle.

Impact Mitigation

The design process for the proposed Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) has considered and incorporated a variety of features to assist in reducing the impact of the development to immediate neighbours and the local environment including:

Controlled hours of use	Limitation of the lighting impact will be controlled by the strict management of permitted operating times. It is intended that time clocks will be installed to ensure lights are extinguished at the curfew hour every night of use. Time clocks will be set to operate within a pre-programmed time including a seasonal changeover facility for BST and GMT.
Sympathetic appearance	The finish of proposed artificial grass playing surfaces will offer a similar appearance to amenity grass / sports turf. The open steel mesh ball-stop fencing (polyester powder coated Dark Green RAL6005 will be discreet against a rural background. The 15m high floodlight masts will offer a slim-line profile, which will minimise daytime impact.

Acoustic attenuation	Fence panels will be insulated from the posts using neoprene rubber washers to be fitted to every fence post / mesh fixing to aid noise reduction by reducing rattle and vibration from ball impacts. Also unlike a small ball-court, playing lines shall be permanently marked at a distance of 3m away from the pitch perimeter to mitigate balls impacting onto the fence.
Efficient floodlight design	The proposed artificial lighting design complies with the requirements for an Environmental Zone E2, which is low district brightness, for example a village or relatively dark outer suburban locations.

In conclusion the proposed Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) will replace existing grass pitch provision with:

- Better quality provision
- Provide access to greater quantity of provision
- In a suitable location
- Supported by effective and appropriate management arrangements
- Implemented with best practice construction techniques to minimise waste and pollution

4.6 Section 8 – Promoting Healthy Communities

The planning system encourages and promotes the retention of existing and the provision of additional, outdoor sports facilities, both public and private.

This is reaffirmed by the National Planning Policy Framework as existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless it can be demonstrated the building or land is surplus to requirements, the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity or quality in a suitable location or if an alternative development could benefit the community and outweigh the loss of an open space as it is felt access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.

Whilst it is acknowledged the proposed development would result in the loss of a playing pitch, it must be noted that the scheme would provide a purpose build multi-functional facility that would facilitate greater level of use throughout the day and year.

In addition when assessing the proposal, consideration must be given to the importance of the standard of design and compatibility of a scheme to harmonise with the general character of the area in which they are set, the impact upon the private amenity of the neighbouring occupiers and highway safety, amongst other material considerations.

The proposed development will implement better provision in terms of quality and quantity and in a suitable location to benefit the community and provide access and opportunities for sport and recreation, making an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.

The proposal will be sited close to existing onsite facilities; providing convenient access to and from welfare facilities for customers and community visitors.

This location will also afford convenient pedestrian and maintenance access as well as providing for suitable management, supervision and security by Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre's management and administration teams.

The close proximity of existing facilities described above will help to create a vibrant and successful place and a safe and accessible environment.

This proposal satisfies the above planning objectives and is beneficial to the advancement of sports activity and development. It will deliver genuine beneficial outcomes as follows:

- Implement social, recreational and cultural facilities and services for community needs to enhance the sustainability of Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre and the surrounding area of Barnsley.
- Provide access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and wellbeing of the local community.

The proposed development will provide a clean, safe and modern facility to inspire sporting participation and will enhance the existing sport and recreation provision at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre.

It will provide a genuine asset for the applicant and local community sporting groups and organisations.

It will encourage and inspire more people of all ages to participate in sport.

For these reasons, we believe the following objectives have been satisfied:

- Supporting and enhance the continued regeneration in Barnsley.
- Promotion of social inclusion and community cohesion.
- Health and wellbeing.
- Promoting more sustainable development.

4.7 Section 10 – Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change, Flooding and Coastal Change

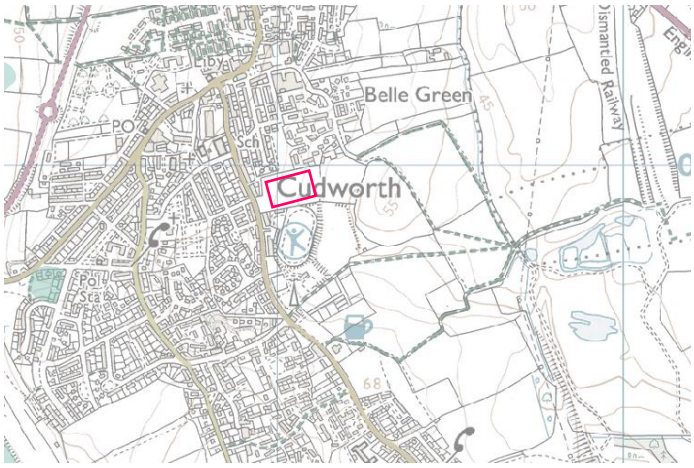
Surface Water Drainage Strategy / Flood Risk Assessment

In order to assist the application for full planning permission and to facilitate the satisfactory implementation and delivery of the project; an assessment is required in accordance with the planning policy.

Fluvial / Tidal Flooding

The below illustration captured from the Environment Agency website at a scale of 1:10,000 illutrates that the proposed development area is located within a Flood Zone 1. This zone comprises land assessed as having a less than 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river or sea flooding (<0.1%).

The likelihood of flooding from the rivers or the sea at the proposed development site is very low.



Development Proposals and Flood Risk Vulnerability

Whilst the proposal is not situated within a Flood Zone 2 or 3, best practice to compare the proposal again flood risk vulnerability classifications.

With reference to Table 2 of Planning Practice Guidance to the National Planning Policy Framework, the proposed development for an outdoor sports facility would be classified as Water Compatible Development.

An extract from Table 2 of the PPG for Flood Risk and Coastal Change is replicated below in Table 2.4 with the proposed development type highlighted:

Flood Risk Vulnerability Classification	
Vulnerability	**Development types**
Water Compatible Development	Flood control infrastructure Water transmission infrastructure and pumping stations Sewage transmission infrastructure and pumping stations Sand and gravel working Docks, marinas and wharves Navigation facilities

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	Ministry of Defence defence installations Ship building, repairing and dismantling, dockside fish processing and refrigeration and compatible activities requiring a waterside location Water-based recreation (excluding sleeping accommodation) Lifeguard and coastguard stations Amenity open space, nature conservation and biodiversity, ***outdoor sports and recreation and essential facilities such as changing rooms*** Essential ancillary sleeping or residential accommodation for staff required by uses in this category, subject to a specific warning and evacuation plan
Source: Planning Practice Guidance - 2014	

Flood Risk Vulnerability and Flood Zone Compatibility

Based on the above assessment of the site being located within a Category 1 Flood Zone and classified as a 'water compatible development' and with reference to Planning Practice Guidance for 'Flood Risk and Coastal Change' to the National Planning Policy Framework (Table 3), the proposed development of this site would be considered "appropriate".

A copy of Table 3 is presented below to confirm the assessment above.

A sequential test is not required as the proposed development is located in a Flood Zone 1.

No exception test is required.

Flood risk vulnerability and flood zone compatibility					
Flood risk vulnerability classification	**Essential infrastructure**	**Water compatible**	**Highly vulnerable**	**More vulnerable**	**Less vulnerable**
Zone 1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Zone 2	✓	✓	Exception Test required	✓	✓
Zone 3A	Exception Test required	✓	×	Exception Test required	✓
Zone 3B	Exception Test required	✓	×	×	×
Key: ✓Development is appropriate ×Development should not be permitted					
Source: Technical Guide to the National Planning Policy Framework, March 2012					

Sequential Test

As the site is located within a Flood Zone 1, a sequential test is not required; however it is worth noting the site is used (and historically designated) as a sports complex (active playing field) the development can be deemed to have passed the sequential test.

Current Conditions

The proposed development will an existing artificial grass pitch.

Surface Water Disposal Requirements

In accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG), the site should be drained on a separate system with foul water draining to the public sewer and surface water draining in the most sustainable way.

The NPPG clearly outlines the hierarchy to be investigated by the developer when considering a surface water drainage strategy in the following order of priority:

A. Into the ground (infiltration);

B. To a surface water body;

C. To a surface water sewer, highway drain, or another drainage system;

D. To a combined sewer.

This is necessary to promote sustainable development, secure proper drainage and to manage the risk of flooding and pollution. This condition is imposed in light of policies within the NPPF and NPPG.

Surface Water Disposal Options

Into the ground (infiltration)

Ground investigations undertaken in January 201 encountered weathered Mexborough Rock as a granular material which is considered permeable. An indicative infiltration test was undertaken which successfully soaked away.

Testing were undertaken between depths of 0.28m and 0.4m and produced rate of 7.78 x 10-6m/s.

On the basis of infiltration testing, it is that the near surface soils are capable of disposing of storm water via infiltration systems

Surface water body

An unnamed ditch bounds the adjacent (Eastern) playing field at an approximate 125m distance South East of the subject area. This ditch and playing field are set at a substantial lower topographical level that the existing artificial grass pitch. The ditch appears to join a tributary to the River Dearne which is located approximately 1.75km South of the subject area.

On this basis it is considered that the disposal of surface water via a water course or similar is appropriate.

Surface water sewer

We are not aware of any surface sewers (private) associated with the adjacent club on this basis it is considered that the disposal of surface water via a sewer is not appropriate.

Combined sewer

There is an existing combined sewer in close proximity to the application site which is owned by Yorkshire Water. This sewer is routed along the Southern AG and on this basis it is considered that the disposal of surface water via a sewer is appropriate if permission is granted by Yorkshire Water.

Surface Water Disposal Solution

The proposed development and associated surface drainage strategy from this site is such that the surface water will be managed and disposed of within the site boundary, thus complying with the Technical Guidance to the National Planning Policy Framework.

This drainage strategy will be designed to ensure no above ground flooding occurs up to and including the 1 in 30 year event as a minimum, with an assessment to demonstrate that the flood risk off-site is not increased during the 1 in 100 year event plus an allowance for climate change.

This is to enable the site to meet the recommendations of the non-statutory technical standards for sustainable drainage.

Development shall not begin until a detailed sustainable surface water drainage scheme for the site has been submitted to (and approved in writing by) the local planning authority.

Given that three disposal options are possible, the detailed drainage scheme shall adopt the most preferable option via infiltration into the ground (soak away) with adequate attenuation (water storage) within the AGP pitch base (comprising a permeable granular sub-base) to ensure that excess volumes, which would be experienced during a critical storm event; do not bypass the control system.

Surface Water Drainage Design

The designed surface water drainage solution should be based upon the following criteria, to maintain satisfactory system performance:

- Provide adequate functionality over a period of twenty years.
- Ensure that surface water is removed from the surface area at a rate necessary to prevent surface flooding experienced during acute rain storms and to ensure the facility will not be lost through rain at the highest intensity which may be expected to occur either once every five years or through continuous rainfall of 50mm over a 24 hour period.

- Ensure that surface water is effectively removed from the facility construction to ensure that load bearing capacity of the substrate is not weakened by an increase in moisture content or becomes more susceptible to frost damage.
- Protect the installation from influences of groundwater or surface water from surrounding areas.
- Prevent the risk of uncontrolled flooding elsewhere (to land adjacent to the development).
- Comply with all applicable Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) requirements with attenuated flows (containment within the granular pitch sub-base) incorporated wherever necessary, without affecting the performance of the pitch.

Flood Compensation

Flood compensation measures will not be required as finished (floor) levels will not affect current flood plain storage onsite.

Overland Flows

Clearly there is a risk of this storm event being exceeded, albeit this risk is considered very low.

In such an event the proposed drainage systems will become overwhelmed and overland flows could occur.

Foul Water Drainage Strategy

There will be no new foul water discharge from the proposed Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) development.

Surface Drainage Maintenance

The drainage system will be designed to minimise maintenance requirements, however, a full maintenance scheme will be established for those elements not being offered for adoption.

Maintenance operations will be carried out in perpetuity post development.

Conclusions and Flood Risk from Site Drainage Proposals

The disposal of a surface water by infiltration is an appropriate method of surface water disposal.

Based on the above, providing the above strategy is implemented, the developed site will improve flood risk status to the development area thus satisfying the principles of the National Planning Policy Framework.

4.8 Section 11 – Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment

Neighbour Amenity

It should be noted that a certain level of impact existed to neighbouring residents when the artificial grass pitch was previously operational.

It is acknowledged that the refurbished Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) would reinstate noise and general disturbance during times of use of the external sports facility, particularly during winter months which is resultant from an intensification of use made possible by the enhanced durability of 3G artificial grass playing surface and the replacement of an artificial (flood) light system.

The proposed hours of operation for the refurbished Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) are as follows:

Monday to Friday	0900 hours to 2200 hours
Saturday	0900 hours to 2000 hours
Sunday	0900 hours to 2000 hours

The nearest residential properties to the proposed 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) are situated on:

North	The closest house (Belle Green Gardens) is located approximately 13m from the AGP (to the building facade).
North West	The closest house (East View) located approximately 27m from the AGP (to the building facade).

During refurbishment work, it will be necessary to reconstruct a grass embankment along the Western end of the AGP and a grass mound along the Northern AGP perimeter, in order to connect the new facility to adjacent land once the extended facility footprint is established. These natural features will provide a buffer to residential neighbours, similar to the existing ground layout.

The inclusion of neoprene washers (inserts) fitted to ball stop fence post / panel fixings to reduce panel rattle and vibration from ball impacting on perimeter ball stop fencing, will reduce noise emission created from use of the AGP.

Also, unlike a small ball-court, playing lines shall be permanently marked 3m minimum away from the pitch perimeter to mitigate balls impacting onto the fenced enclosure.

It is important to understand that the proposed hours of use have been carefully considered with times limited to those needed by Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre and its partner organisations and community groups to adequately satisfy the demand for football development; both during the day and during evenings and at weekends via pre-arranged and structured community access.

Visual Amenity – 3G Artificial Grass Playing Surface

The new Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) will be surfaced with 3G artificial grass coloured grass green. The visual appearance will be similar to existing fine sports turf and in keeping with a playing field environment.

Visual Amenity – Ball Stop Fencing

The proposals incorporate perimeter fencing, which is necessary around the Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) to ensure the adequate long term protection of the valuable assets for a variety of vital reasons as follows:

- To contain balls within the pitch during training, competition and recreational activities
- To protect the playing surface from contamination that will severely compromise the longevity of the artificial grass playing surfaces
- To help prevent unauthorised use and vandalism

The height of perimeter fencing is 4.5m comprising intended to provide protection and to prevent any ball escaping the playing areas.

In terms of the visual impact of high level fencing, the elevation will consist of a weld mesh design comprising see-through mesh, coloured dark green. This type is commonly installed around artificial sports pitches and permits light and views throughout, reducing the visual impact of the fencing.

We consider the proposals will not create any excessive levels of overbearing or overshadowing impact and fence heights are appropriate for the intended activities and would not appear incongruous within the playing fields surroundings.

Visual Amenity – Floodlights

The new Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) requires a replacement artificial (flood) lighting system to satisfy the necessary and planned weekly usage and community participation for football applications.

The proposals incorporates the provision of six (6no.) new 15m high floodlight masts mounted with associated luminaires around the perimeter of the Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) with three masts located along the Northern AGP perimeter and three masts located along the Southern AGP perimeter.

The masts would be of a relatively slim profile tubular steel masts with galvanised (brushed silver) finish.

These are new structures, replacing a previous floodlighting system; that would be visible from nearby residential properties and public areas.

Although these new masts will be visible they are not a feature uncommon in a sub urban area (similar to street lights) in which the application site is located.

It is accepted that whilst the height of the columns would result in features which are prominent within the site itself, they vital to provide artificial lighting for the planned use of the facility after dusk.

Currently, there are eight floodlight masts 15m high associated with the existing artificial grass pitch, mounted with three luminaires to each mast (24no. luminaires in total).

The refurbishment proposal requires fourteen new luminaires to provide adequate illuminance for the designated sport (football) which represents a 40% decrease in terms of luminaires (a reduction of ten luminaires) to the floodlighting system.

There will be a change in the location and general appearance of existing masts the proposed luminaire arrangement for each longitudinal side of the pitch will be as follows:

Masts along Northern longitudinal pitch side	**Existing luminaires**	**Proposed luminaires**
Corner mast	3no.	2no.
Lateral mast	3no.	3no.
Lateral mast	3no.	NA
Corner mast	3no.	2no.
Masts along Southern longitudinal pitch side	**Existing luminaires**	**Proposed luminaires**
Corner mast	3no.	2no.
Lateral mast	3no.	3no.
Lateral mast	3no.	NA

Corner mast	3no.	2no.
Total	**24no.**	**14no.**

Please refer SSL2221 Appendix A (Floodlighting Performance Results) for full details of the proposed lighting scheme performance and design to minimise the impacts on surrounding areas outside of the Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP).

As illustrated within supporting application information, there would be some light spillage beyond the perimeter of the 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP), however this overspill is controlled within the tolerances of ILP Environmental Zone E2 and use of the proposed lighting system would not result an unacceptable impact by way of artificial lighting on nearby residential amenity.

To the nearest residential properties, light Intrusion (into windows) when floodlights are operated is calculated at less than 2 Lux at ground level and at 1.80m above ground level, which is below the pre-curfew 5 Lux threshold for the environmental zone E2.

All floodlights will be extinguished at the permitted curfew time and therefore, light Intrusion (into windows) will be 0 Lux after the curfew time which is below the post-curfew 1 Lux threshold for the environmental zone E2.

To the nearest residential properties, luminaire intensity is calculated 2310 candela (maximum) which is less than the pre-curfew 7500 candela threshold for the environmental zone E2 at 1.80m above ground level.

The proposed artificial (flood) lighting system design provides the following beneficial features:

1. The proposed floodlighting system is specifically designed to fulfill sports lighting requirements and is particularly suited to applications where low light pollution is essential.

2. Performance of the proposed artificial lighting (floodlighting) systems satisfies the intended sporting applications and standards of play.

3. A 15m high mounting height to the Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) provides the most efficient solution and the proposed masts will offer a slim-line profile, which will minimise daytime impact.

4. The proposed Philips OptiVision MVP507 is an asymmetric down lighting luminaire will provide the optimum sports lighting solution, ensuring that light is directed fully downwards towards the playing pitch surface, reaching the sports surface and not into the sky or polluting the environment.

5. All luminaires have a zero upward light ration and the proposed vertical alignment of luminaires is 2° maximum above the horizontal plane.

6. 14no. luminaires will be fitted (eight fitted with louvres to limit overspill) are required to successfully implement necessary lighting performance for competition and training football activities.

7. Performance of the proposed replacement artificial lighting (floodlighting) system has been design to and complies with an Environmental Zone E2 (ILP) which is a rural surrounding with low district brightness, for example a village or relatively dark outer suburban locations.

8. Light intrusion and luminaire intensity to the closest residential properties are below the threshold for an E2 environmental zone and as such, do not create an unacceptable impact by way of artificial lighting.

9. Upward waste light will also be minimized, achieving full cut-off with 0% projected into the atmosphere. This satisfies the recommendations by The British Astronomical Association's Campaign for Dark Skies, an organisation who lobby for low light pollution lighting systems.

10. Control switches and time clocks shall be installed to the floodlights to ensure they do not remain on any later than the permitted curfew hour and therefore mitigate impact to the surrounding environment.

11. Time clocks will be set to operate within a pre-programmed time including a seasonal changeover facility for BST and GMT to ensure floodlights are extinguished at the correct curfew hour.

The lighting scheme has been designed to minimise the impacts on surrounding areas outside of the Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP), and given the location of the application site within an outer suburban area and complies with the thresholds for an Environmental Zone E2, we do not consider that the proposed lighting would result an unacceptable impact by way of artificial lighting on residential amenity.

On completion of the installation, the new floodlight system will be tested and commissioned to ensure design levels are achieved and not exceeded.

During the operational life cycle of the system, periodic lighting checks and assessments will be undertaken to ensure the installation continues to satisfy the requirements set out in the lighting design.

These assessment include:

- Lighting Levels to each individual area
- Overspill levels

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Visual Amenity – Size and Scale

The proposed Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) accords with The Football Association's technical guidelines and the facility size is limited to spatial requirements necessary to implement one multi-functional artificial grass football pitch with a variety of secondary pitch markings to support youth and mini soccer and training areas, all within the same enclosed playing space.

On this basis, we consider the proposal is complimentary to surrounding built features and will not compromise with the views from any onlookers, looking into Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre.

4.9 Strategic Context – The Football Association National Game Strategy 2015 / 2019

The Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre project will contribute to the FA National Game Strategy by:

- Increasing participation (especially for girls)
- Developing our football workforce
- Making high quality football facilities accessible to grass roots clubs

This project is an excellent example of where a new Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) can deliver facilities in an area of strong local need, directly in line with the strategy.

This project is supported by a well thought out and strategic football development plan that will provide a wide range of coaching and participation opportunities for people of all ages and abilities in the Barnsley area.

With Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre as the key community football delivery partner, this project will enable the applicant to deliver the football development plan which is focused on all four of the key areas identified by the national game strategy.

4.10 Principle of Development

The application site is presently an existing external artificial grass pitch decommissioned in 2009 once deemed to be unsafe to use.

This proposal seeks to refurbish the pitch surface (including a minor extension to the playing area footprint) which is necessary to renew life cycle and functionality, along with replacement ball-stop fencing, clean access and site furniture, maintenance equipment and associated storage and replacement floodlights; all required to modernise the sports pitch in accordance with The Football Association's (FA) technical guidance and current standards.

It is intended that the resultant facilities would not only be used by customers of Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre, but also by partner organisations and community groups from the surrounding area of Barnsley to gain the maximum football developmental outcomes; both during the day and during evenings and at weekends via pre-arranged and structured community access.

The development of an AGP following The Football Association's technical guidelines will especially enable children and young adults to play on appropriately sized pitches with appropriately sized goals, encouraging greater touches of the ball and an increased involvement in the game to enable skill development. The intention is that young players will develop better technical and decision-making skills from a younger age. The nature and layout of the facility will fully accommodate over 18 and adult football (based on a 11v11 format), under 11/12's (based on a 9v9 format), under 9/10's (based on a 7v7 format) and under 7/8's (based on a 5v5 format) as well as several training areas within the pitch footprint.

This proposal would meet with the aims of national and local policies and would provide much needed improved sports facility at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre.

On the basis of the above, we consider that the proposal would give rise to a considerable benefit to the wider community through the provision of an enhanced playing facility.

Sport England will be a statutory consultee on this planning application as the proposal affects a playing field.

The following details are provided to enable Sport England's informed assessment of whether the proposed benefits to sport associated with development would be sufficient to outweigh the detriment associated with the impact on the playing field and satisfy exception policy E5 of Sport England's playing fields policy 'A Sporting Future for the Playing Fields of England 1997'.

This policy statement defines in planning terms what is considered a 'playing field', which is; the whole of a site that encompasses at least one playing pitch. A playing pitch is a delineated area, which together with any run off is of 0.2 hectares or more.

Playing pitches may have a grass surface or an artificial one.

The aim of the policy is to ensure that there is an adequate supply of quality pitches to satisfy the current and estimated future demands of the pitch sports.

The following details are provided to enable an assessment:

Requirement	Detail provided
Impact the proposed development would have on playing pitch provision including proposed summer / winter playing pitches	Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre is of particular importance to the development of sport in the local area and no alternative site under the ownership of the applicant is available to implement this proposal.
Existing community use of the playing field	Access for existing community users is organised by Barnsley Premier Leisure at Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre.
Community use of the proposed sports facility	All existing users of the playing field still be adequately accommodated within the site and the AGP will support FA affiliated junior / youth football (highest level of competition), along with mid-week training and coaching activities, and organisation will continue to be arranged by Barnsley Premier Leisure. It is anticipated the new AGP will be used up to 85 hours per week. The proposal will result in increased quantity of playing pitches on site, as the AGP will be able to accommodate multiple junior and mini soccer pitches within the same enclosed playing space.
Community access formally secured through a community use agreement	Community use agreements with key partners will be established and managed on a formal basis to facilitate delivery of the Football Development Plan.
Sport related benefits of the proposed artificial grass pitch for the applicant and the community This explanation should provide detail on the deficiencies of the existing facilities and set out how the new facilities will address such deficiencies and help with the delivery of sport and meet community facility needs. Furthermore, the explanation should provide details regarding which sports the new artificial grass pitch will accommodate.	The Barnsley area has limited access to state of the art 3G Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs) and this proposal will contribute to satisfying high demand for training and competition football. This site has been strategically identified by The Football Association and Sheffield and Hallamshire County Football Association. The Football Association has prioritised this development and has identified a need for improvement in football facilities within the Barnsley area to help deliver national strategies for grassroots football. The proposed AGP will accord with Sport England's and The Football Association's technical design guidance for Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs). The proposed facility does allow for adequate storage of goals and maintenance equipment, changing provision and access to allow for community use.
Explanation of which sports the new artificial turf pitch will accommodate	With football being the targeted sport, the appropriate surface choice is 3G artificial turf containing a 60mm pile (this being regarded by The Football Association as the most suitable artificial playing surface for community football and youth development). Sport England guidance** describes this as a 'preferred football surface' and capable of high level competition / training (national/international). ***Sport England's guidance document 'Selecting the Right Artificial Surface for Hockey, Football, Rugby League and Rugby Union' Issue 002 / December 2010.*
Proposed surface type	3G artificial turf containing a 60mm pile.
Sustainability	Arrangements to ensure the long term maintenance of the facility will be established, along with a necessary sinking fund to ensure the long term benefit of the facility and the appropriate replacement of the artificial surface, floodlights and pitch furniture at the end of life cycle.

Given the above details, we believe Sport England will agree that the proposed development is acceptable under the following exception policy:

E5 – The proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor sports facility, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss of the playing field or playing fields.

In terms of design standards, the schedule of works necessary to implement the proposal are designed in accordance with, and must be constructed if full compliance with; the following sources of appropriate technical guidance and performance quality standards:

Artificial Grass Pitches (AGPs)

- The Football Association (FA) Guide to 3G Football Turf Pitch Design Principles and Layouts.
- Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) Quality Concept for Football Turf – Handbook of Requirements (January 2012 / October 2015) – FIFA*1 / FIFA Quality certification required or equivalent IATS standard.
- Sport England Design Guidance Note 'Artificial Surfaces for Outdoor Sport – updated guidance for 2012.
- Sport England's guidance document 'Selecting the Right Artificial Surface for Hockey, Football, Rugby League and Rugby Union' Issue 002 / December 2010.

Ball Stop Fencing

- BS EN 15312:2007 A1:2 Free access multi-sports equipment – Requirements, including:
- Clause 5.5.1.2.1 Resistance to repeated impact of footballs
- Clause 5.5.1.2.2 Very intense forceful impact resistance to player's kicks

Goals

- BS 8462:2005+A2:2012Goals for youth football, futsal, mini-soccer and small-sided football.
- BS 8461:2005+A1:2009Football goals. Code of practice for their procurement, installation, maintenance, storage and inspection.
- BS EN 748:2004Playing field equipment. Football goals. Functional and safety requirements, test methods.

Floodlights

- The Football Association (FA) Guide to Football Turf Pitch Design Principles and Layouts (FIFA's Class II for Non – Televised events (4))
- BS EN 12193:2007 Light and lighting. Sports lighting
- The Institution of Lighting Professionals (ILP): Guidance Notes for The Reduction of Obtrusive Light GN01:2011

Pathways

- Sport England Design guidance Note – Accessible Sports Facilities – Issue 003 / April 2010

Generally

- Works must comply with current Building Regulations and British / European Standards applicable to the proposal

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5. Conclusions

5.1 In view of the above justifications and having been assessed in the light of relevant planning policies and material considerations, we request this proposal is accepted.

5.2 The proposal accommodates planning policy recommendations and published technical guidance, and we consider the proposal is based upon best design practices for external sports facility provision.

5.3 The Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) and associated facilities would not result in an unacceptable impact upon the character, appearance or visual amenity of the surrounding area.The proposal will complement the immediate surroundings within the sports complex and will not appear inappropriate to any view looking into Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre.

5.4 The proposed development will not create a detrimental impact on private amenity or residential amenity due to an undue impact from noise and light pollution.

5.5 The proposed AGP would make a significant contribution towards addressing the unmet demand for modern sports facilities and will allow Dorothy Hyman Sports Centre and partner organisations to focus competition play and training in one venue and provide access during peak community use periods and gain greater control over facility availability.

5.6 The proposed AGP will contribute to the achieving The Football Association's National Game Strategy and is supported with a robust sustainable business plan, satisfying training needs, mini soccer and competitive matches.

5.7 The proposed AGP will replace an existing decommissioned AGP with better quality provision, thereby providing access to greater quantity of provision in a suitable location and supported by effective and appropriate management arrangements; whilst implementing best practice construction techniques to minimise waste and pollution; in accordance with Achieving Sustainable Development of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012).

5.8 The proposal would give rise to a considerable benefit to the wider community through the provision of an enhanced playing facility and the opportunity for usage throughout the year, in accordance with Section 8 – Promoting Healthy Communities of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012).

5.9 The proposal would ensure that surface water run-off is effectively managed and does not increase flood risk elsewhere, in accordance with Section 10 – Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change, Flooding and Coastal Change of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012).

5.10 The proposal would ensure that noise emission created by use of the development is not expected to adversely affect nearby residents by way of noise, in accordance with Section 11 – Conserving and enhancing the natural environment of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012).

5.11 The proposal would ensure that performance of the proposed artificial lighting (floodlighting) system complies with an Environmental Zone E2 (ILP) which is rural surrounding with low district brightness, for example a village or relatively dark outer suburban locations, in accordance with Section 11 – Conserving and enhancing the natural environment of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012).

5.12 Equally, the proposal satisfies relevant sections of Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council's planning policies.

5.13 The proposal satisfies Sport England's E5 – The proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor sports facility, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss of the playing field or playing fields.

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