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From: planningcomments@highpeak.gov.uk
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To: Planning Comments (HPBC)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access

Categories: Andy, Purple Category

Application Reference No. : HPK/2018/0109 Site Address: Sir Philip Howard Roman Catholic School St Marys Road
Glossop Derbyshire SK13 8DR Glossop

Comments by: Mr Lee Mather

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Submission: Objection

Comments: I wish to register an objection to the above application for the following

reasons and observations:

1, The pitch is in very close proximity to my property which resides in a quiet residential area. The very nature of a football game is noisy, swearing, shouting from both the players and spectators is very common. No acoustic tests have been conducted to how noise could impact the surrounding area, little or no mitigation for noise is detailed in the plan. A vague community use agreement is mentioned in the plan, but no detail of what would be in that agreement is given. Trees are mentioned as mitigating the noise, however several trees will be removed as part of the plan. Trees will not provide significant reduction in noise particularly in the winter when the trees are without foliage. The plan suggest it will only be a few extra hours of activity at the site every day. However that is misleading as its quite a substantial increase. Normal outdoor activity at the site is limited to 3pm Mon to Friday only, with no outdoor use at evenings and weekends. The pitch operational hours being 9am to 10pm every day will lead to 7 extra hours of outdoor noise each day and an increase of 13 hours on Saturday and Sunday. My wife works shifts for the NHS and often has to work a night shift so regularly has to sleep early evening and through the day, these changes will most likely have an adverse effect on her sleep (and therefore health).

2, Traffic in the area is already bad, but it's particularly bad and dangerous directly around the school area during school pickup and drop off times. Adding to that issue with extra traffic caused by the football pitch patrons would exacerbate the problem even further. It's not inconceivable to think knockout style competitions could be held at the football pitch with multiple teams and spectators, the local infrastructure would just not be able to handle the entrance and exit of vehicles for that kind of event safely.

3, The plan doesn't provide any extra parking bays, the plan is to remove the current number of parking bays and replace with the same number of parking bays. There are already insufficient parking on the site, especially when the school holds special events and parents evenings. How will the site handle parking for evening events at the school with football pitch users also using the parking bays. They will park on the already congested roads making it

even more difficult for local residents to park safely. Members of the nearby church also use the school parking bays. In my view the current proposed plan doesn't provide enough parking bays to cope with the demand the new football pitch would create.

4, The plan includes 10ft high floodlights with 200 lux brightness, which I believe is above the 120 lux recommended level for residential areas. This would shine onto our property and could further affect my wife's sleep with her working shifts. With several families with young children and a care home housing a number of dementia patients nearby, it is not acceptable in my view to have these flood lights shining into bedrooms nearby.

5, One of the most glaring omissions from the plan is there is no provision for any pitch netting to prevent footballs from being kicked over fences and walls and damaging property. The only provision in the plan is a 3 metre fence, however I believe guidelines recommend 4.5 metres. The council has had many complaints from residents near similar sites such as Glossop NE FC of property damage caused by footballs and privacy invasion, as a result of footballs being retrieved from residential properties. With houses so close to the site in my opinion the pitch would also need to be screened by netting to the height of the floodlights to all sides or a roof net to rule out the possibility of property damage and privacy invasion.

It is my view that if this plan is approved it would seriously impact on my family's health, quality of life and potentially affect the value of our property. But it would also have a wider social impact, the elderly residents of Pendlebury Court Care Home, St Mary's Road, some of who suffer from dementia, will be subjected to noise and swearing from football matches which has the potential to be distressing due to the nature of the condition.

The school has ample provision with its own indoor pitch and use of the outdoor pitch at Pike's Lane just a short walk from the school. Data from www.pitchfinder.co.uk shows there are 69 football pitches at 39 different sites within a 5 mile radius of the school (and 10 pitches at 10 different sites within 1 mile) one of which is the 3G community football and hockey pitch with floodlights less than a mile away at Glossopdale College, Talbot Road . Therefore the community need for another 3G pitch is highly questionable.

For all of these reasons I recommend that the current proposal be refused and that the potential acoustic impacts, traffic, parking and property damage concerns be properly assessed before the proposal is considered further.