
24/2112/FUL

**Proposed floodlighting scheme to the approved MUGA
Ingrams Sports Pavilion London Road Cranbrook Exeter Devon EX5 7LF**

Introduction

This application is submitted by the Town Council. The Committee may therefore agree to make no comment on the basis that the applicant is the Council. However the following report is available to ensure that members of the committee may be content that the application has taken full account of the potential issues.

Members will recall that the Ingrams site gained planning approval some years ago which resulted in the layout of the sports pitches, indicative approval for the play area, pavilion and parking as well as planning approval for a MUGA. (19/2675/MRES). Subsequent detailed approval for the pavilion came forward through application 22/1561/RES.

Delivery of the MUGA is now moving forward with contractors appointed and work due to commence.

The approval for the MUGA (19/2675/MRES) did not include lighting. This application now comes forward to rectify that as the Council desires to have the MUGA lit for sports play to provide for use during evening hours.

To be clear, the proposed MUGA is a sports facility rather than a play facility. It will be let to sport clubs for sports such as netball, basketball, soccer etc. It will not be available as an open play facility in the same way as the more general MUGA at St Martins is today. When not let for sports, it will be locked and unavailable.

An application to light a MUGA raises questions about light pollution and noise nuisance. It is envisaged that the location of this MUGA mitigates these concerns. The site forms part of the wider Ingrams sports area and is bounded to the north and west by the sports site. Homes are being delivered some distance away to the north and west. To the south is a substantial hedgerow and the London Road and there are no dwellings immediately opposite. To the east is the proposed Farlands site and the current planning application brings forward a junior football pitch on the Farlands site on the immediate other side of the eastern boundary. Again, the proposed Farlands housing is some distance away.

It is considered that the proposed scheme does not have any amenity impacts on neighbours, both existing and proposed.

The proposed four lighting columns are each six meters high and are proposed to have modern directional lighting that minimises pollution. Operating times are to be limited as per the design and access statement.

Members will also recall that the site benefits from an air ambulance lighting column that provides a night landing opportunity for the Devon Air Ambulance. The light is not yet operational and awaits site connection and installation of a lighting head. This light has planning consent and is higher at ten metres.

The application can be viewed on the EDDC planning website, but the following documents have been extracted for information of members.

- Location plan
- Site plan
- Scheme layout
- Combined plans
- Design and Access statement
- Detail - lighting column
- Lighting specification (2)
- Overall site plan
- Layout

Recommendation

Members of the Committee have assurance that the application seeks to minimise any potential concerns about light pollution and noise nuisance by the location of the MUGA, by the specification of the proposed lighting to be installed and the proposed limits on operating hours.

With that assurance, the committee resolves to make no formal planning comment because the Town Council is the applicant in this case.