

Arborfield & Newland Parish Council

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11th November 2014

Ashley Smith Case Officer Wokingham Borough Council Shute End Wokingham Berkshire

Dear Ashley,

REF: Planning Applications:

- LB/2014/2137 Park Lodge (Former Bearwood Golf Course) Mole Road
- LB/2014/2138 West Lodge (Former Bearwood Golf Course) Mole Road
- F/2014/2119 Former Bearwood Golf Club, Mole Road

In response to consultation on the above planning applications Arborfield & Newland Parish Council has the following comments:

- public transport to the site is limited to a once a week '145' service, so provision and safety for pedestrians and cyclists are very important
- Mole Road is unsuited to the current 50mph speed limit and is both used and crossed by horses, cyclists and walkers. The Council therefore wishes to see the 30mph speed limit extended from Mill Lane to past the entrance to the site; the 30moh speed limit from The Bull at Arborfield extended to Church Lane and the remainder of Mole Road reduced to 40mph, particularly with two bends signed at 30mph and 40mph respectively.
- An pedestrian / cyclist / equestrian crossing is needed on Mole Road at the Gravelpit Hill / Carters Lane junction
- Footways should be extended to the site entrance; and provided from The Bull at Arborfield to at least Lockey Farm and, preferably, to Church Lane.
- Listed Building applications will need to be carefully considered by the Conservation Officer, especially in view of errors identified in several of the plans (more information can be provided if needed)
- As many of the trees and hedgerows as possible should be retained to preserve the rural character of the site
- Floodlighting will need to be controlled in use by planning condition, and be of the type that
 prevents spillage towards local residential properties

In addition to our comments on the planning application, we would be pleased if you would consider the scope for community support in any of these areas as part of the planning evaluation:

- Arborfield Parish Council, supported entirely from the limited number of properties in the parish, supports 2 football pitches on its own land which supports;
 - Arborfield and Forest FC's two men's teams
 - Wokingham and Emmbrook's five teams (under 12's to under 17's)
- Arborfield Parish Council is currently setting up support for an under 9's team which will have its own pitch separate from the two existing pitches.
- Arborfield Parish Council is also in the process of extending its existing pavilion to cater for this expansion.
- The Coombes CE Primary School is in the Parish and support via Kicks or any other scheme Reading FC has to support local football activities would be appreciated as would support for the Parish's youth club.
- Any support or assistance in the above activities, such as a dedicated number of days on which the facility would be made available to local groups, which all encourage football and general fitness of our residents would be much appreciated.
- Finally with health in mind Arborfield Parish Council is looking at funding to provide defibrillators, supported by Heart Stop training for residents, which would benefit the community as a whole; any support for this initiative would also be most welcome.

Kind Regards

Alison Ward Parish Clerk