

FAO: Warren Simmonds
Wiltshire Council

15th July 2015

Our Ref: SW/WSH/2014/38446/S

Dear Warren,

App Ref: 14/11642/DP3
Site: Downton C Of E Primary School, Gravel Close, Downton, Salisbury, SP5 3LZ
Proposal: Change of use to the Memorial Hall Gardens to include a new playground with new community use Multiple Use Games Area.

I write further to the letter I received from Bev Cornish of Downton Parish Council on 1st July 2015. As you are aware I wrote to the Council on the 8th January 2015 and 12th February confirming that Sport England objected to these proposals.

Sport England is disappointed that the proposed School 'MUGA' will not be made available for community use and therefore the proposed development will not meet Exception 5 of our Playing Fields Policy.

The Parish Council, as land owners, has confirmed to me in writing that the Memorial Hall Gardens will remain in community use and will not become the school's playing field. The Council has also confirmed that the existing pitch layout will be able to remain on the site. I have reviewed aerial photographs of the site and at present it would appear no standard pitch is marked out on the site, other than the presence of goal posts. However, the applicant has confirmed that as part of the proposals the site can accommodate an FA U10 7v7 pitch 55m x 37m (61m x 43m).

As the playing field can continue to accommodate this layout, the proposed development is considered to meet exception 3 of our Playing Fields Policy which states;

'The proposed development affects only land incapable of forming, or forming part of, a playing pitch, and does not result in the loss of or inability to make use of any playing pitch (including the maintenance of adequate safety margins), a reduction in the size of the playing areas of any playing pitch or the loss of any other sporting/ancillary facilities on the site.'

Sport England therefore withdraws its objection if you are able to confirm that it is only the land within the red line that will be affected by the change of use and that the Council is able to attach conditions to the application requiring the following;



- The FA U10 7v7 pitch 55m x 37m (61m x 43m) is marked out on the Memorial Gardens Playing field. (If it is not appropriate for this to be sought by condition, would the Parish Council be able to confirm in writing that this can be undertaken?).
- That a fence is installed around the Memorial Gardens playing field to prevent damage to it during the construction process - see Sport England's Model Condition 13:

'No development shall commence until details of protective fencing to be erected around the [playing field/sports facility], to include location, height, type and materials have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The fencing shall be erected in accordance with the approved details before the development is first brought into use and thereafter the fencing shall be maintained in accordance with the approved details.

*Reason: To ensure the safe and efficient use of the [development], to ensure the fence does not have an unacceptable visual impact and to accord with Development Plan Policy **.'*

If details have already been submitted then this condition could be adapted to require the fencing to be maintained.

If you would like any further information or advice please contact the undersigned at the address below.

Yours sincerely

Vicky Aston
Planning Manager

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Cc: Mrs Beverley Cornish – Downton Parish Council