

Playing Field Statement



Angmering Sports Hub

This playing field statement has been prepared to support an application for planning permission for new and replacement facilities at the Palmer Road Recreation Ground. It should be read along side the submitted drawings, Planning Statement, Design and Access Statement as well as the wealth of background material identifying the need for improved sports facilities at the Palmer Road Sports Ground.

Land Parcels

This statement supports a planning application for land which comprises the *existing* Palmer Road Sports Ground. However, the provision of sports facilities extends across this site (the southern parcel) and an area of land adjoining the application site to the north (the northern parcel). The northern parcel is not included within this planning application as planning permission already exists for the use of that land as sports pitches and, therefore, in the absence of any built development on that parcel, no new planning permission is required. It is important, however, that the consideration of the overall sports facilities (pitches, MUGA and hub building facilities) is considered in the context of both parcels, combined.

Choice of Location

As set out in the planning statement, the location has been chosen following an assessment of needs and viability on behalf of Arun District Council (ADC) in the 2019 Playing Pitch Strategy document. The report concluded that "...there is evidence of demand for one 3G pitch at Palmer Road Recreation Ground. One artificial grass pitch built to the FA's specification would cater for the training requirements of local football clubs, while also providing sufficient capacity for wider use during the day from the local community and schools". The findings of the report were considered by ADC's Policy and Finance Committee on 9 February 2023 where it was resolved that a project team be assembled to progress a planning application.

Given that the Palmer Road Recreation Ground is an existing and popular sports facility in Angmering, it is ideally placed to accommodate the enhanced provision. This development will mark the realisation of a long-term plan to improve facilities here by incorporating land identified for sports provision in the 2020 approval of outline planning permission for 160 dwellings and public open space (including the northern parcel).

Playing Field Provision

The existing provision on site includes the following:

- 2 x full size football grass pitches
- 1 x junior football grass pitch

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- 1 x artificial cricket wicket
- 1 x MUGA
- Sports pavilion with 4 changing rooms, officials changing room and licensed bar
- Children's play area

The proposal, on the southern parcel, results in a small loss of existing playing field area amounting to 3,616sqm because of the enlarged car park and clubhouse building facility. However, this is more than compensated by the inclusion of the northern parcel, which already has planning permission for use as sports pitches. There is, therefore, a substantial overall net gain in sports provision at the site.

The resulting area of sports pitch, across the southern and northern parcels, amounts to 58,261sqm. This excludes the areas 'built' areas such as the clubhouse, patio, paths, car parking and vehicle access route.

The proposed external facilities include the following:

- 3G Pitch: 106 x 70m
- 2 x 7v7 Mini Soccer Grass Pitch: 55 x 37m
- 1 x 5v5 Mini Soccer Grass Pitch: 37 x 27m
- Play area
- MUGA
- Outdoor gym

In addition, and although not subject of the planning application (because no planning permission is required), the northern parcel will provide space to mark out the following:

- 1 x Football pitch: 106 x 70m
- 4 x Mini Soccer Grass Pitches 37 x 27m
- 1 x Cricket Pitch

Finally, the proposed clubhouse, which does form part of the submitted planning application, will accommodate the following:

- Workspace and reception
- Multifunctional spaces for use by both local sports clubs & community
- 4 x Changing rooms including private shower cubicles and toilets
- 2 x Officials Changing (1 per pair of changing rooms)
- Toilet facilities
- Accessible Changing Room
- Kitchen & Servery
- Kitchen store
- Storage (Internal / External)
- Plant room