

Cavan Lowe
34 Powerscourt Road
North End
Portsmouth
PO2 7JN

Sunday, 2nd December 2018

Tag CHANGE OF USE APPLICATION REFERENCE BR/280/18/PL

Without Prejudice

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to voice my support for the Tag change of use application for premises that would provide a full time permanent residence for the gym club.

My daughter has been part of the gym club for 7 years since the age of 4 and is now part of the elite gymnasts who trains up to 20 hours per week and participates in many competitions throughout the year representing the club and the Sussex County.

The gym club has never had a permanent residence yet despite this has continued to grow its membership each year, with many of the children spending many years with the club.

Despite having several very good gym clubs in Portsmouth we travel 4 times a week to Chichester and Bognor to be part of the Tag team because of their dedication and professionalism as a group of trainers.

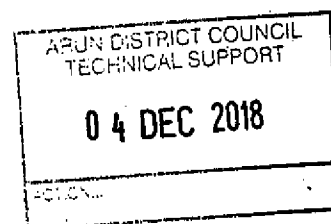
I strongly believe that if the club were to have a permanent place they could call "home" then the club could continue to thrive and grow whilst offering an invaluable experience and opportunity for young people in the area.

Many Thanks

Cavan Lowe

3 December 2018

Nicola Barnett
19 Knott Gardens
Fishbourne
Chichester
PO19 3FE



To whom it may concern

Re: The Academy of Gym new gymnastics facility in Bognor – BR/280/18/PL

I am writing in support of the proposed change of building use for a new Academy of Gym gymnastics training facility in Bognor.

My daughter has attended The Academy of Gym for the last 8 years, beginning as a toddler for an hour a week and, more recently, increasing her training sessions to 5 days per week. We chose the club because of its excellent reputation for having dedicated, highly qualified and encouraging coaches. However, as the club does not have its own custom built gym, in order to train with the correct equipment, the gymnasts have to travel to 4 different locations per week, stretching from Bognor Regis across to Portsmouth. Changing the use of this building to become a dedicated gymnasium for the club would significantly impact our travel arrangements to and from her weekly training sessions. Currently, we have some gymnasts attending two different locations on the same training night, due to a lack of space big enough to take them all, which means car sharing is not possible. Having one dedicated space where all the gymnasts trained together would allow all parents to become involved in car shares to and from the same location.

Moreover, I support a change of use of this building as I cannot emphasise how much this sport has increased my daughter's confidence, mental wellbeing and general physical health. Gymnastics is an ever growing, hugely popular sport that has many health benefits: physical skills for a healthy lifestyle, flexibility, boosting self-esteem, improved and increased concentration and mental focus, as well as teaching discipline - all of which give them the skills to succeed at school, work and life.

Enabling The Academy of Gym to create a dedicated gymnastic centre will mean that the club is able to grow and train more gymnasts to benefit from the sport, increase the number of employment opportunities for coaches and reduce the number of car journeys to and from the gym as people would be able to car share more easily.

I wholeheartedly believe that a change in the use of the current building will only have a positive effect on the club, its members, employment, the local area and simply encourage more gymnasts to take up the sport with this incredibly dedicated club.

Yours faithfully

Nicola Barnett

To whom it may concern 3rd December 2018

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL
TECHNICAL SUPPORT

04 DEC 2018

ACTION...

Planning Application: BR/280/18/PL : Ambulance Station

Letter of support for change of use application by The Academy of Gym (TAG)

My daughter has been a gymnast at TAG for 5 years, since she was 5 years old. In that time she has progressed within the club and within the squad, and has been selected for the Sussex county squad for the last two years.

My daughter currently trains for approx 12 hours a week, at 4/5 five different sessions. As the club does not have it's own facility this requires us travelling to 4 different locations a week. We live in Emsworth and travel approximately 100 miles a week along the A27 around Chichester.

Whilst two of the facilities are custom built gymnasiums (Bognor and Portsmouth which we have limited access to, mostly at unsociable hours for 6-12 year olds) others are school halls with the only equipment being thin floor mats and school benches.

The standard of the coaching provided at TAG is outstanding and the fact that a number of gymnasts from the club have competed at a national level for the last 3 years is remarkable, given the available access to adequate training facilities.

The move to a purpose-built premises will enable the elite gymnasts within the club to compete on a more equal basis with gymnasts from other clubs and give them the opportunity to reach the very highest levels in the sport. It would also enable the club to offer more sessions and places to children of all ages and abilities to enjoy the huge physical and personal benefits associated with the sport.

Gymnastics is one of the best physical exercises for overall health and wellness. Multiple studies prove the importance of gymnastics for bone, muscle, and cognitive health. Gymnasts make healthy lifestyle choices, are confident, and are able to make smart decisions to become successful adults.

A permanent base would also enable parents to do more lift-sharing and cut down the number of journeys being made as gymnasts will be attending the same location at the same time.

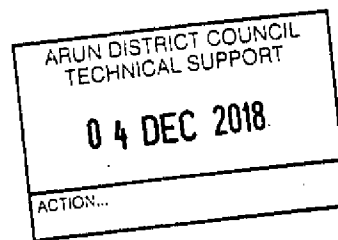
A purpose-built gymnasium of this calibre within the Bognor Regis district would be a huge asset to the town and local economy. It would also offer many more employment opportunities.

I would therefore urge you to approve the change of use application for this building.

Rebecca Williams
50 Thorney Road
Emsworth
West Sussex
PO10 8BL

MISS R MUNDY
4 Hubble close
Selsey
Po20 0bq

Date: 01/12/2018



Reference BR/280/18/PL

To Whom It May Concern

I am writing this letter in support of the application for a unit in Bognor, submitted by The Academy of Gym.

My daughter Jasmine May O'Grady 10, has been a member of TAG squad since 2016. Gymnastics is her main interest outside of school, and a lot more than a hobby considering that she trains up to 5 days a week. She is a talented competitive gymnast and thrives in training and has recently been selected for the women's artistic sussex squad.

Currently the sessions take place in 5 different venues, including two venues in Chichester, one in Portsmouth, one in Bognor Regis and one in Chidham. Seeing that we live in Selsey the logistics are very complicated and involve a lot of lift share with other gymnasts who live in various locations in the area. We are very committed, but have been finding it increasingly difficult to cope with all the travelling involved, because Jasmine has a younger sister who also has other interests outside of school.

We would welcome the club's move to Bognor for the reasons outlined above, but would also like to draw the Council's attention to the fact that bringing TAG to Bognor would be incredibly beneficial for the area, allowing the local children and young people to embrace a new and exciting sport in both competitive and recreational context.

The club desperately needs a permanent base, which would allow for better logistics, more consistency with coaching times, better session planning and more efficient coaching. TAG is a fantastic club and deserves a good home.

We therefore hope sincerely that this application will go through all the necessary approvals, and are willing to provide any further information and / or support should this be required.

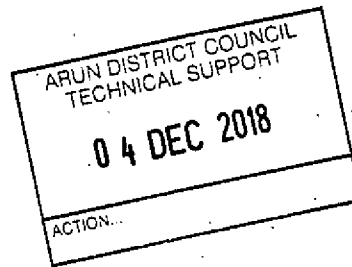
Yours sincerely,
MISS R MUNDY

Mrs K Edwards

44 langdale Avenue

Chichester

Po19 8jq

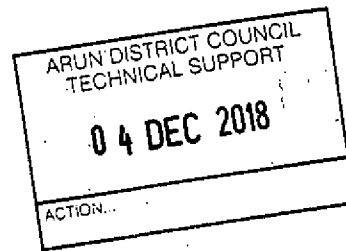


Br/280/18/pl

The academy of gym would really benefit from this facility, they currently have no real base and are having to always travel here, there and everywhere to train. We ourselves live in Chichester and do always car share with other gymnasts and Bognor would be easier to get to and save on fuel (plus saving on unnecessary pollution) rather than traveling to Portsmouth etc. It would really give the girls a sense of belonging if they always trained in the same place. Also the club is very limited as to how many hours they are able to offer and this would enable the squad to train more and to give the girls better opportunities.

Yours sincerely Kate Edwards
Parent of squad member.

7 Stephens close
Chichester
Po19 6th



Reference BR/280/18/PL

To Whom it now concern

Our daughter has recently become part of The Academy of Gym after move from another club that she had been attending since she was 5 years old. She trains with them 4 to 5 times a week. We moved to this club as we know that are able to push her to her full ability with their fully qualified coaches, but at the moment the lack of facilities does not meet the high level of coaching.

Our daughter find parts of her education very challenging due to extra needs she has, this gym club enables her to have something that she loves and can forget about the struggles she may have had in the day. She is learning so many new skills, but as parents what really stands out is the confidence and self belief that they have built up in her and this is now showing in her day to day life. The club and coaches have done so much for her mental wellbeing and we know that if they could get there own premises this would just keep improving as she would also have that permanent base to feel safe and secure in.

As a club we are all very close, sharing car journeys as at the moment that train in up to 4 different locations per week. With their own premises the gymnasts and coaches would be able to up their session and open their doors to give these outstanding opportunities to so many more children and young adults.

We really can not stress enough how this club has changed our daughters every day outlook and we really hope you will consider all of this and the many more positives that will be gained when you are considering the planning permission for the new prememise.

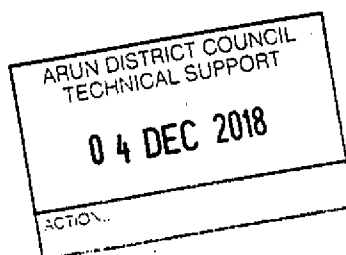
Many thanks
Anna Jones
Richard Jones

60 Gilbert Road

Chichester

West Sussex

PO19 3NL



2nd December 2018

Dear Sir or Madam

Re: Letter in support of The Academy of Gym (TAG) planning application (BR/280/18/PL)

Our daughter is a squad member of TAG and trains with the club four times a week. Twice a week she trains at the Westgate Leisure Centre in Chichester, twice a week in school halls in Chichester and Chidham and on other occasions at venues in Portsmouth and Bognor Regis. As the Westgate Leisure Centre is only term time, holidays can be rather complicated as TAG arrange alternative sessions at other venues (generally Bognor and Portsmouth and the school halls), whenever they can, which tend to be at differing times from the norm. Managing the diary can get quite complicated and we are on the road to and from training quite a bit.

We fully support the establishment of a permanent gymnastics facility for The Academy of Gym (TAG) which will not only benefit the current TAG gymnasts, by giving them permanent access to essential equipment to help them to improve and progress, but will also benefit the local community and surrounding areas by allowing children and adults of all ages to experience gymnastics in all different disciplines.

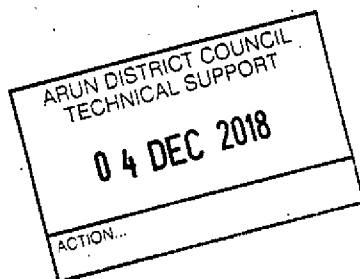
Gymnastics is an ever growing hugely popular sport that has many health benefits: physical skills for a healthy lifestyle, flexibility, boosting self-esteem, improved and increased mental focus, social and discipline, all of which are essential to succeed in school, work and life.

TAG is already a credible gymnastics club, established in 2009, offering a robust programme with quality leadership and management. Currently, the club runs classes in 5 different venues throughout the week. The club has many dedicated gymnasts including members of the Sussex county squad and the South-East regional squad. Due to lack of constraints, there is limited time and use of equipment to enhance the club to develop further.

It would be amazing to have all training in one place and this would allow the club to grow and invest in its gymnasts. Please support this planning allocation.

Yours faithfully


Julia and Hugi Hugason-Briem



Adam and Katya Smith
15 Longley Road
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 6DB

To Whom It May Concern

Date: 2 December 2018

Re: Application BR/280/18/PL

We are writing this letter in support of the application BR/280/18/PL to Arun District Council for change of use on old Ambulance Station 44 Chichester Road Bognor Regis PO21 2XJ.

Our daughter Sophie Smith, 8 y.o., has been a member of TAG squad since 2014. We have seen an incredible progress in her development; she has this year been selected as one of the youngest gymnasts with the Sussex County Squad. As it stands, she attends up to 5 sessions per week, which take place in 5 different venues, including two venues in Chichester, one in Portsmouth, one in Bognor Regis and one in Chidham.

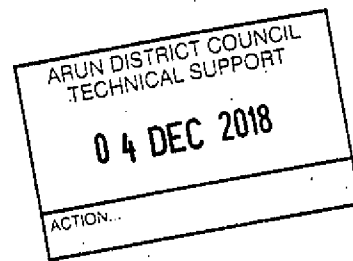
TAG is a fantastic club, with incredibly dedicated coaches and equally dedicated gymnasts, who have been willing to travel considerable distances to attend each session, which involves a lot of lift sharing, team work, and generally making any personal arrangements around the venue / session availability. At times, it is a struggle to accommodate the sessions, as we all live at various locations.

The club desperately needs a permanent base. This will allow for much more consistency with coaching times and will allow for better session planning and more efficient coaching. The simple fact that the club has managed to exist through a few years of uncertainty without a permanent base, whilst maintaining an incredibly high squad standard and competitive edge evident from competition results, goes to show that this is a highly driven and motivated enterprise. As parents, we cannot wait to see what progress our children can achieve with more structure to their coaching, better equipment, and even more sense of belonging when TAG builds a permanent home.

We hope sincerely that this application will go through all the necessary approvals, and are willing to provide any further information and / or support should this be required.

Yours sincerely,
Adam and Katya Smith
Parents of Sophie Smith

5 Mons Close
Southbourne
PO108FJ



2 December 2018

To Whom It May Concern,

Ref: BR/280/18/PL

I am writing in support of the The Academy of Gym to obtain the premises in Bognor.

My daughter has been a member of the squad since 2014 and it would be an excellent opportunity to have one base for the children to attend gymnastic training sessions. The gymnastics is not only good for fitness, mental wellbeing and the list of health benefits but also good for excellent social skills, confidence and self-discipline. It also gives them goals and life ambitions making a positive impact on society as a whole.

I live in Southbourne West Sussex and will always lift share to gymnastics and this will contribute with the new premises. As a working mum this is a good time saver to lift share and have all their sessions in one place as opposed to travelling all over the district.

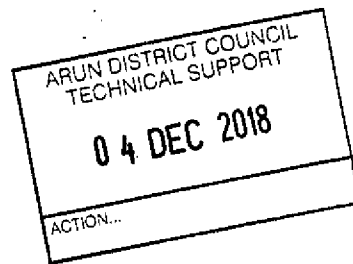
I do hope you will see all the positives outweigh the negatives and support us in our journey.

Kind regards

Davinia Stapleton

BR/280/18/PL

2 December 2018



Mrs W Pettitt
77 Valley Park Drive
Clanfield
Waterlooville
Hampshire
PO8 0PL

Dear Sir/Madam

RE - The Academy of Gymnastics (TAG)– new venue in Bognor Regis

It has been brought to the attention of us parents that TAG are currently in the process of applying for a new unit in Bognor Regis for the purpose of having one facility in which to train our gymnasts.

Our daughter joined TAG a year ago and they are a fantastic organisation with the children's happiness as one of their aims.

Our daughter currently trains with TAG on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday and an occasional Sunday when alternative arrangements can be made. Regrettably at present though, due to the non-continuous availability of Westgate Leisure Centre as a permanent base, she can only train at Westgate on a Monday and Saturday.

For the other session she has to go to Chidham Primary School and Bishop Luffa School which unfortunately do not hold all of the equipment needed for gymnasts, and then Portsmouth Gymnastics Centre as and when they can accommodate our budding gymnasts.

It would be an enormous help to have all of the training held in one facility and if it was a fully Equipped Centre then it would provide so much assistance to all of the gymnasts.

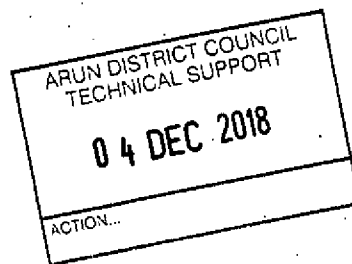
My husband and I currently travel from Clanfield in Waterlooville and this journey can be frustrating because of the change of venues each time she is due to train. To have to travel to just one place would be advantageous to not only the gymnasts but also to us parents who have to do all of the ferrying around. We chose to travel to TAG because of their dedication to the sport and the fact that the gymnasts perform well and have a great reputation.

We would be extremely grateful if you would seriously consider the application for the premises. You never know.....one of these gymnasts could be a future Olympian!

Kind regards

Wendy & Simon Pettitt

9 East Close
Middleton-on-Sea
Bognor Regis
West Sussex
PO22 7RS



Planning Department

Arun District Council
Civic Centre
Maltravers Road
Littlehampton
BN17 5LF

Saturday 1st December 2018

REFERENCE: BR/280/18/PL

I would like to express my SUPPORT for the above application.

The Academy offers a range of opportunities from recreational to competitive gymnastics. It offers highly qualified coaches who help young gymnasts to achieve their full potential at whatever level that may be.

It is vital that this area maximises its investment in the youth of today by recognising the positive benefits that this club can bring to children and the community.

The proposed site has excellent access, with a main bus route and the train station as alternatives to using a car.

Classes are not continuous during the day and therefore the impact on traffic flow would be considerably less than that of the previously very active ambulance station. For the neighbourhood surely there is a benefit in having a non-commercial/retail facility on this site, with regard to less noise impact, if any and far less vehicular intrusion.

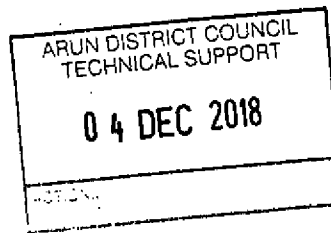
The youth of today deserve the opportunity to enjoy a safe, well managed and beneficial environment which the Academy supplies. What they need is to be granted a permanent site. At present the gymnasts have to travel to various locations for their training and to have a permanent base would be a great recognition for the dedication these youngsters invest in their sport.

The need for such a facility is self evident hence the application being made. The proposed change from a disused ambulance station into a thriving gymnastics facility is an excellent opportunity.

I wholeheartedly support this application.

Yours faithfully

Heather Burles



30 Church Road
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 7HL

2nd December 2018

REF BR/280/PL

To whom it may concern

I am writing regarding The Academy of Gym's application for the change of use of the former ambulance station in Bognor Regis.

My daughter trains with the Academy three times a week, in two different venues. Due to the length of the training sessions (between two to three hours) I do not stay so do not require a parking space for any length of time.

Currently we are unable to car share as the nature of the training means gymnasts have to be split up and attend different training facilities all over the area as there is no one space that can accommodate the whole club. If there was one dedicated permanent base then car sharing would absolutely be a reality between us and at least two other families, and I know several other gymnasts who would also be able to do this. The proposed site is also within easy access of main bus routes.

Although my daughter has been a competitive gymnast for six years she has only been with this club for six months. I have been incredibly impressed by the level of coaching, organisation and genuine care that they for all the gymnasts in the club. A new training facility would mean that they could not only continue to grow and nurture emerging talent but also extend their expertise to the wider community by running many more recreational, inclusive classes.

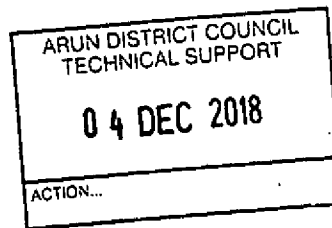
Gymnastics is a fantastic sport, it has taught my daughter many life lessons. Not only does it give her a good level of fitness she has learnt to work towards, and achieve, sets of goals, and have a strong sense of discipline. The social aspect is also important, all ages of girls train together and support each other.

Please can I urge you consider all of the above when deciding to approve a change of use for this building. I genuinely believe a Gymnastics club of this calibre would be such an asset to the children and families of Chichester, Bognor and beyond.

Yours faithfully

Katie Hennessy

Klaudia Furmanek
6 Warblers Way
Bognor Regis
PO22 9LR

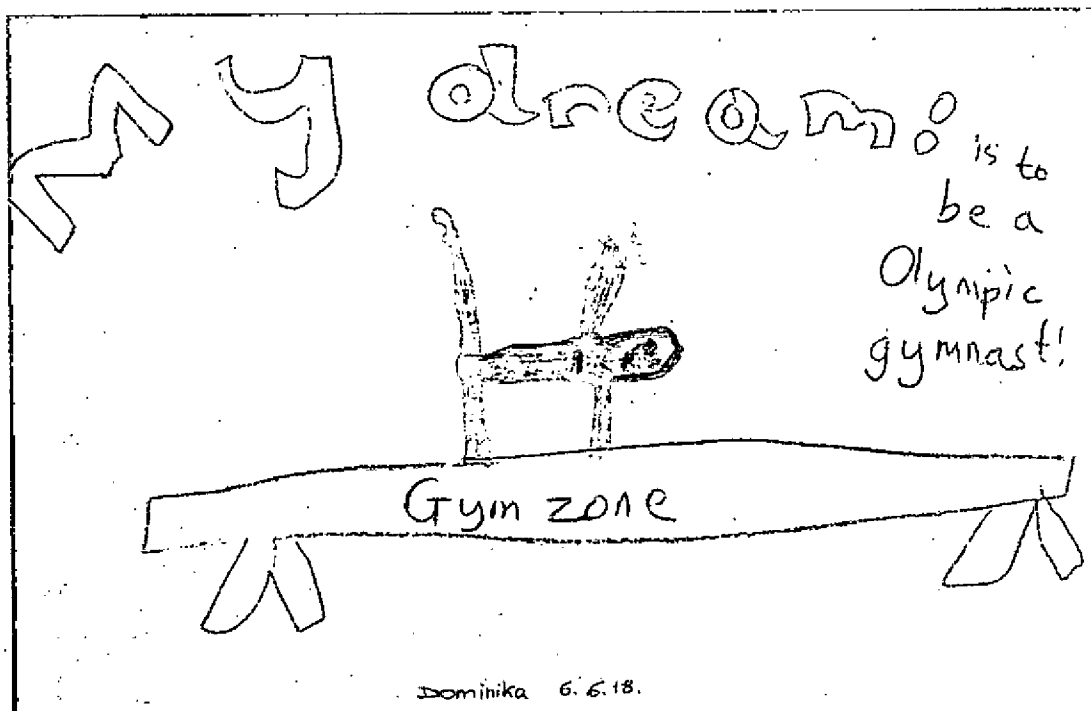


To whom it may concern.

My daughter joined The Academy of Gym in June this year. She has been training Women's Artistic Gymnastic from 2016. She started her journey with gymnastic in another club, but after some time she noticed that she needs a more professional training because her dream is to become an Olympic gymnast. I have changed her club because the training at The Academy of Gym is on a very high level and what is very important to me as a parent, I can afford it. This is a non-profit club which gives a chance to every child to try. Children are treated equally. My daughter would love to have more hours, but until the club hasn't got its own place that is not possible, as with so many gymnasts the coach needs to be fair to all children with dividing the hours between them.

This club invests in children, teaches them respect, discipline and faith in their own strength. The club helps parents to make this training possible for their children.

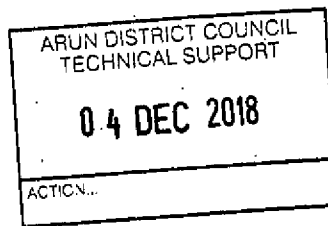
Please help those children to achieve their dreams.



Yours sincerely

Klaudia Furmanek

39 The Hartings
Felpham
Bognor Regis
West Sussex
PO22 6QF



Planning Department
Arun District Council
Civic Centre
Maltravers Road
Littlehampton
BN17 5LF

Saturday 1st December 2018

REFERENCE: BR/280/18/PL

Please accept this letter as a response in support of the proposed change of use application for the currently disused Bognor Regis Ambulance Station submitted by The Academy of Gymnastics – Kris Dorney.

My daughter currently trains with TAG and has done since her coaches left at another club in the local area earlier this year this left a gap for a number of gymnasts to find new clubs. Since joining TAG my daughter, Hannah's skill and ability level has increased hugely. Hannah has a huge passion for gymnastics which gives her a hobby and confidence. She once sat quietly but now trains and exercises, she thinks carefully about her diet and wants to work hard. We hear so much today about the need to offer young people positive, beneficial, safe and healthy opportunities and diversions. This proposed change of use will facilitate this.

I am on the Leadership team at a local secondary school and know the importance of having a place for young people to go and the proposed facility would allow the Elite gymnastics to have a base to call home but would also provide opportunities for other young people to recreationally train. It can also benefit healthy futures, curriculum development and the wider community.

Currently we travel to a number of different schools and centres across the area which impedes on training times and causes stress. Often the gymnasts are split up across facilities as hired facilities are not large enough to accommodate all of the gymnasts together. This can be eradicated by using the one base. The proposed site is within easy access of main bus routes with the 700 bus stop outside. The train station is within an easy walk and many parents already car share or drop and collect due to length of some sessions so traffic and parking would not be a concern.

Many of the gymnasts have reached Southern and Regional levels and this will be a boost in publicity and in regeneration for Bognor Regis to have TAG based within its locality.

Once again, I fully support this application.

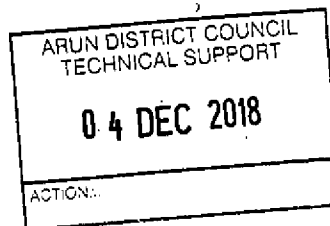
Yours Sincerely

Louise Hurst

26 London Road

Arundel

Bn18 9AU



Reference BR/280/18/PL

To whom it may concern,

My daughter attends the training sessions organised by The Academy of Gym 4 times a week and is a dedicated gymnast. Currently, the arrangement of the sessions means that we bypass Bognor regularly, driving through to different training venues instead of dropping and using the Bognor places of commerce for any leisure, retail or business needs.

We live in Arundel and currently use the A259 and A27 for so many journeys each week to get to Portsmouth, and the other bases used at the moment. For each training session Bognor, car sharing with pickups on the way in Fontwell and Littlehampton would be possible, lessening the environmental impact. Car sharing currently is not possible for us as the venues are spaced around, outside of Bognor with gymnasts needing to be at different locations at the same time as no current facility is large enough for all to train together. There also is no reasonable public transport links to use regularly as a nomadic club. The proposed location enjoys very workable bus routes and other transport links.

As a family of an Arundel school, we see how many families choose to go east towards Worthing for their gymnastics as they all prefer one location for their training and classes. We do not know of any other families who choose to go towards Bognor as not having a dedicated facility is just not convenient or appealing. And none of the current venues provide the range of gymnastics disciplines sought. A one stop location would reverse this trend in Arundel and with families from the east of Bognor.

There is a very credible recreational gymnastic hall in Bognor who used to hire their hall to TAG. This relationship came to a natural amicable end, as Regis Gymnastics needed a more commercial approach to their hires, and TAG need more advanced equipment for the focussed training that their squads require. Going forward we hope to raise the whole profile of gymnastics in Bognor Regis that would benefit everyone associated with the sport, and ongoing will be seeking mutually beneficial professional relationships with local businesses and sport providers.

A training facility of this calibre locally would be an absolute boon for the children and young people of the area. The high standard of coaching offered by The Academy of Gym is currently amazing but they could reach so many more with recreational sessions for all standards and developing the future elite gymnasts. It would be a fantastic step forward as the facility would be able to offer a far wider range of gymnastic disciplines appealing to a wider section of the community. This facility would positively impact the local economy by keeping the spending prowess of the families associated with The Academy of Gym in the town while providing employment opportunities for those seeking a coaching career.

There is no training facility that has the commitment, dedication and experience of the TAG coaching team to train the gymnasts who currently compete at County and national level. This elite facility would be an amazing badge of honour for Bognor Regis. As a parent of a talented gymnast, the potential of this proposed facility is truly exciting! To have all the equipment and coaches in one amazing place is a fantastic opportunity for The Academy of Gym, the local economy and community.

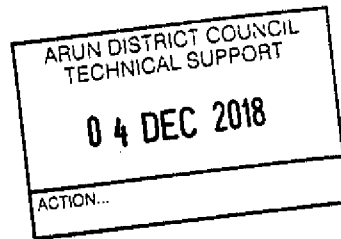
I urge you to consider all the above points when deciding whether to approve a change of use for this building. And I fervently hope that the potential for the contribution to the local economy and impact on the children and young people of Bognor and surrounds gets the much needed approval.

Yours in hope,

Sara Guiel

Gymnast Parent and Governor of Arundel C of E Primary School

Sent from my iPad



BR/280/18/PL

15 Nelson Close

Tangmere

West Sussex

PO20 2FW

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in support of The Academy of Gym (TAG) who are requesting the change of use of a unit in Bognor Regis to become a permanent gymnastics training facility. This is an incredibly exciting prospect! I have three daughters who, between them, attend TAG for a total of 22-25 hours a week and are flourishing under the fantastic coaching they receive. The passion and professionalism of the coaching team inspired me to become a coach too and I am now a qualified women's artistic coach for TAG. I coach recreational classes twice a week in addition to my professional role as an assistant headteacher at a local primary school.

TAG is already a very successful club and provides recreational classes as well as squad training for competing gymnasts. They have a number of gymnasts who have been called up for the Sussex and South East region squads. In addition to this, TAG have gymnasts who have qualified to compete at national finals. Currently, however, TAG are having to use a range of different venues across West Sussex as well as Portsmouth to accommodate the needs of their gymnasts training schedules – often I am having to take my children to more than one location in one evening which can make car sharing rather difficult. One permanent site would facilitate families being able to car share effectively therefore lessening the environmental impact.

A permanent high-quality training facility in the area would attract lots of young people to take up this fantastic sport and would enable TAG to run many more classes to reach the needs of all standards whether it be those looking to do gymnastics just for fun or for those looking to become competitive gymnasts. This, in turn, would have a positive impact on the local economy as parents would be spending their time and, therefore, their money locally. It would also offer employment opportunities for those looking for a career in gymnastics coaching.

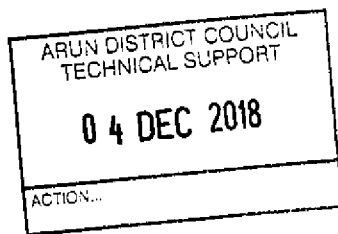
It is for all these reasons that I support in full this application for change of use. To have a first-class gymnastics facility that the dedicated coaches, gymnasts and parents of TAG can call 'home' is a fantastic opportunity!

Yours faithfully,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Mrs Rachel Pallett.

Mrs Rachel Pallett

Parent & Coach



BR/280/18/PL

3/12/2018

To whom this may concern,

As a parent of a daughter who currently attends The Academy of Gym we would like to say how excited we are at the prospect of finally having our own unit.

My daughter has been going to this gym club for almost 4 years now and the progress she has made has been remarkable.

It's not easy for coaches or gymnasts to train in different venues like we do, and particularly when the gymnasts are training with limited use of equipment all the time.

The Academy of gym do not have access to their own sprung floor which is essential for learning new floor skills safely from beginners to the most experienced of gymnasts. My daughter competes in the women's artistic elite level so on the floor, her tumblers are challenging and powerful. A unit of our own would accommodate a sprung floor which would benefit all gymnasts from beginners to the most experienced.

The Academy of gym do not have the facility to provide foam pits to perform complex moves safely when they are doing their bar routines and vault. Trying out a new skill for the first time is daunting for any gymnast, at any level. Having foam pits under the bars or by the vault is very reassuring and encouraging knowing they can land safely.

The gymnasts have to queue to go on apparatus at the moment such as beams and bars as there isn't the space to have more than one or two in rented facilities where we currently train.

This unit could change so much for our children and for future gymnasts. A purpose built gym would accommodate all the aforementioned equipment upcoming gymnasts need to succeed and more.

My daughter has been successful enough to have qualified for national competitions, competed at international level, placed in the top six for the South East region and a Sussex champion for 2 years in a row! This would not of been achievable without the dedication from the coaches and hard work from the gymnasts.

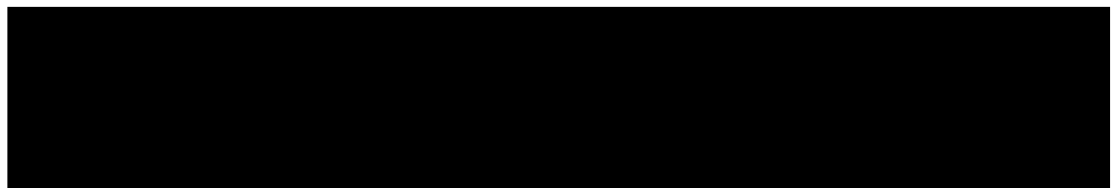
This club has an excellent reputation and that's due to the experience and high level of coaching it has to offer and of course the recognition from the success of competitions. We feel incredibly confident that this unit alongside our dedicated coaches will offer the children everything they need to thrive and get fit, and maybe even fulfil their ambitions and dreams to become Elite gymnasts!

Gymnastics as a sport opens up so many opportunities for children particularly in this west Sussex area. It not only develops their core strength but their mind and body too. My daughters are incredibly strong from the years of gymnastic training and it's been a good foundation for them taking part in other sports too such as netball, football and rugby.

As we are used to travelling around from one gym place to another, I know parents will continue to share lifts for the training sessions should we get this unit so parking would never be an issue.

We are 100% in full support of this exciting opportunity for The Academy of gym.

Kind regards



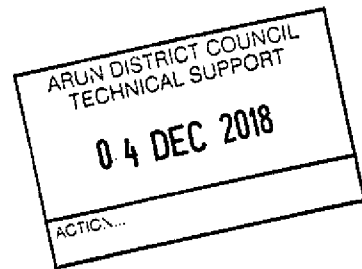
SLAN

Lindsey Wadsworth

53 Eveleigh road

Portsmouth

PO6 1DJ



3rd December 2018

Ref: BR/280/18/PL

To whom it may concern,

I write as a parent of 2 gymnasts currently training with The Academy of Gymnastics (TAG) to show my support for the proposed change of use for the former ambulance station in Chichester Road, Bognor.

My younger child currently attends recreational sessions on Saturdays and thoroughly enjoys them. He would love to attend more sessions if they were offered at his skill level however facility restrictions mean this isn't possible at present.

My elder child is a dedicated and talented gymnast who trains 3 or 4 times a week, currently in a variety of locations. At 7 years old, she is one of the youngest members of the squad and the improvement and development of her ability has been truly remarkable in the time she has training with TAG. This is thanks to the highly skilled and dedicated coaches TAG employs. To have all the staff, equipment and gymnasts in one location would be massively beneficial for my daughter's development, and the whole TAG team and prospective new gymnasts' as well.

With the dedicated, fit-for-purpose facilities at this potential site, TAG could offer places to a greater number of gymnasts of all ages, skills and disciplines, thus providing a healthy recreational facility for a larger number of local children and potentially adults and could also create employment opportunities as the club grows.

This base would allow all gymnasts to excel and reach their full potential, which given the dedication shown by them all surely is the least they deserve.

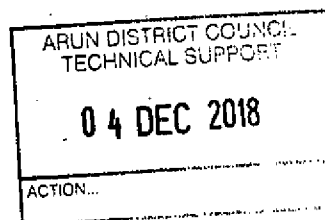
As families of the gymnasts' we are conscious of minimising the journeys undertaken to and from training facilities and as such a lot of car-sharing is already undertaken to minimise the environmental impact of the club, as well as reducing the parking requirements. In addition, many parents drop the gymnasts off to sessions and return later to collect, thus minimising the need for a high number of permanent parking spaces.

I sincerely hope these points are taken into consideration when the change of use decision is undertaken.

Lindsey Wadsworth

Gymnast parent

BR/280/18/PL



My name is Grace Mihell and I am nearly 15 years old. I have been at the gym club TAG since I was 6 and have been given various amazing opportunities. Through my journey I have met new people from all different backgrounds and places. Although it has been difficult as we have had to travel to different venues, we have managed to grow massively. We used to train at one gym when we first started and I feel that this helped build my confidence and familiarity with the gym and team supporting me. But because we needed to train more it was important to have a stable place to train, as a result our only option was and still is to train in different areas and clubs. This often means training alongside other gym clubs and waiting or not being able to use all the facilities. As our gym is constantly growing, this issue is becoming bigger and it is harder to provide a comfortable base to train.

Due to the various levels of gymnasts we coach, they all compete at different levels so need their own space to improve. We feel as a gym club, it is important to give as many children the chance to have these same opportunities that many have already had. If we had our own gym we would be able to offer times more suitable for different ages, which would provide better times for parents and gymnasts rather than sessions that fit in well with the other clubs. I have progressed massively because of TAG and now proudly coach a range of gymnasts. This club has given me a 'gym family' but as I have been with them since the start, I think it was easier when we only had to travel to one gym. If we could have one place to train it would provide us with the secure base we need to expand this gymnastics club even more.

Thank you for reading my letter.
Your sincerely, Grace Mihell