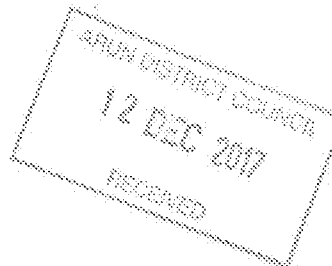


FERRING CRICKET CLUB

Little Twitten, Sea Lane, Ferring, West Sussex

Arun District Council
Arun Civic Centre
Maltrovers Road
Littlehampton
West Sussex BN17 5LF



11th December 2017

Dear Mrs Gardner

Application FG/174/17PL

We are writing in relation to the above planning application.

Ferring Cricket Club have been playing at the adjoining Recreation Ground, Little Twitten, for over 60 years. The current Trustees of the club hold a 30 year Licence to use the ground and maintain the cricket square, and a corresponding groundlease of the pavilion, from Arun District Council.

Our concern is based on the fact that the health and safety implications for the residents of the proposed properties seem to have been completely overlooked.

The removal of all the mature trees and hedge screening by the land owners has greatly increased the exposure of three of the proposed properties to the ingress of cricket balls into gardens, with the associated danger to property and families, particularly children.

There are precedents where owners of properties adjoining cricket grounds have sought injunctions to prevent the neighbouring club from playing cricket until or unless sufficiently high and adequate protection is erected.

If that situation was to develop at Little Twitten the cost of providing such protection would be beyond the means of Ferring Cricket Club and the club could cease to function.

We therefore urge the local Planning Authority that as a condition of any planning permission the developer be required to erect protective netting of a height and adequacy to prevent or limit cricket ball intrusion.

We have been making great efforts to secure the future of the village club over the last few years. In 2012 we were awarded a £50,000 Sport England grant to enlarge our changing rooms, improve shower and kitchen facilities and install a practice strip and mobile cage.

We started a Colts section that is continuing to grow year on year with 4 age groups now planned for the 2018 season and beyond. It has been tremendously successful.

The club is a vital amenity in the recreational and social life of the village.

This could all be put at risk if even one owner took objection to the intrusion of cricket balls into their property and sought an injunction. It would also be distressing for us as a family orientated club if any injuries so occurred.

We realise that the site in question may be suitable for some residential development in principle but to safeguard the future of the Club, and, as highlighted in the 2014 case East Meon and Cricket Ground Association v East Hampshire Council, we ask that the planning committee give full regard to these concerns.

Yours sincerely,



R A Miller
Chairman
Ferring Cricket Club
c/o 18 Sea Avenue, Rustington, BN16 2DG.