

From: Christopher Carroll <Christopher.Carroll@sportengland.org>
Sent: 13 April 2022 16:07
To: julian.jackson@blueyonder.co.uk; enquiries@martonmossforum.org
Cc: chairman@martonmossforum.org
Subject: RE: Marton Moss Neighbourhood Plan - Sport England Reference: SP/20/00003702

Hello Julian,

Thank you for the email and for highlighting this matter.

Further to my email, I can confirm that when assessing the Local Green Space Study (February 2022) and the Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 Consultation Draft (March 2022) that Sport England have no objections to the inclusion of the informal area of open space to the North of St. Nicholas School within Draft Policy MM9 (Local Green Space) of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Kind Regards,

Christopher Carroll
Planning Manager

M: 07879 435864

E: Christopher.Carroll@sportengland.org

From: julian.jackson@blueyonder.co.uk <julian.jackson@blueyonder.co.uk>
Sent: 13 April 2022 12:30
To: Christopher Carroll <Christopher.Carroll@sportengland.org>; enquiries@martonmossforum.org
Cc: chairman@martonmossforum.org
Subject: RE: Marton Moss Neighbourhood Plan - Sport England Reference: SP/20/00003702

Dear Christopher

Thank you for your comments on behalf of Sport England on the Marton Moss Neighbourhood Plan however I need to point out that one of the areas you refer to **is included** in the draft Neighbourhood Plan as proposed Local Green Space.

It is the Open Space to the North of St. Nicholas School. This is not an area used for formal sports or by any sports club and is considered by the Neighbourhood Forum to fully meet the National Planning Policy Framework definition of Local Green Space. Without that designation the land would not have protection as an informal area of open space. The area is referred to in Draft Policy MM9 of the Plan and on pages 6 and 7 of the Local Green Space Study report.

In view of this do you wish to amend your observations on the Plan?

Kind regards

Julian Jackson
Freelance Planner
**Strategic, Local and
Neighbourhood Planning**

From: Christopher Carroll <Christopher.Carroll@sportengland.org>
Sent: 13 April 2022 11:31
To: julian.jackson@blueyonder.co.uk; enquiries@martonmossforum.org
Cc: chairman@martonmossforum.org
Subject: Marton Moss Neighbourhood Plan - Sport England Reference: SP/20/00003702

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for consulting Sport England on the above neighbourhood plan.

Further to Sport England's previous comments sent in an email dated 28 August 2020 and for convenience included below, it is acknowledged that subsequent amendments have been made to the Local Greenspace designation to now not include:

- Open space to the north of St. Nicholas School
- Football Ground off School Road
- South Shore Lawn Tennis Club

These changes are welcomed by Sport England for the reasons previously stated.

Sport England would like to make you aware that the Blackpool Playing Pitch Strategy has now been completed and was adopted May 2021 (Weblink - <https://democracy.blackpool.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?Id=1840>) and should form part of the evidence base documents for the Neighbourhood Plan.

Also, Sport England would again like to promote the use of the Active Design guidance, and its accompanying checklist (Weblink - <https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/active-design>), which could also be used at the evidence gathering stage of developing the neighbourhood plan to help undertake an assessment of how the design and layout of the area currently enables people to lead active lifestyles and what could be improved.

Kind Regards,

Christopher Carroll
Planning Manager

M: 07879 435864

E: Christopher.Carroll@sportengland.org



From: Melanie Hughes
Sent: 28 August 2020 15:10

To: enquiries@martonmossforum.org

Subject: Marton Moss Neighbourhood Plan - Sport England Reference SP/20/00003702

Dear Sir/ Madam

Thank you for consulting Sport England on the above neighbourhood plan. It is noted that this consultation includes presenting evidence collected to date and potential policy options going forward.

Government planning policy, within the **National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)**, identifies how the planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities. Encouraging communities to become more physically active through walking, cycling, informal recreation and formal sport plays an important part in this process. Providing enough sports facilities of the right quality and type in the right places is vital to achieving this aim. This means that positive planning for sport, protection from the unnecessary loss of sports facilities, along with an integrated approach to providing new housing and employment land with community facilities is important.

It is essential therefore that the neighbourhood plan reflects and complies with national planning policy for sport as set out in the NPPF with particular reference to Paragraphs 96 and 97. It is also important to be aware of Sport England's statutory consultee role in **protecting playing fields** and the presumption against the loss of playing field land. Sport England's playing fields policy is set out in our Playing Fields Policy and Guidance document.

<http://www.sportengland.org/playingfieldspolicy>

Sport England provides guidance on **developing planning policy** for sport and further information can be found via the link below. Vital to the development and implementation of planning policy is the evidence base on which it is founded.

<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/planning-for-sport/forward-planning/>

Sport England works with local authorities to ensure their Local Plan is underpinned by robust and up to date evidence. In line with Par 97 of the NPPF, this takes the form of **assessments of need and strategies for indoor and outdoor sports facilities**. A neighbourhood planning body should look to see if the relevant local authority has prepared a playing pitch strategy or other indoor/outdoor sports facility strategy. If it has then this could provide useful evidence for the neighbourhood plan and save the neighbourhood planning body time and resources gathering their own evidence. It is important that a neighbourhood plan reflects the recommendations and actions set out in any such strategies, including those which may specifically relate to the neighbourhood area, and that any local investment opportunities, such as the Community Infrastructure Levy, are utilised to support their delivery.

Where such evidence does not already exist then relevant planning policies in a neighbourhood plan should be based on a proportionate assessment of the need for sporting provision in its area. Developed in consultation with the local sporting and wider community any assessment should be used to provide key recommendations and deliverable actions. These should set out what provision is required to ensure the current and future needs of the community for sport can be met and, in turn, be able to support the development and implementation of planning policies. Sport England's guidance on assessing needs may help with such work.

<http://www.sportengland.org/planningtoolsandguidance>

The evidence to support the Marton Moss Neighbourhood Plan presents a number of site options which have been assessed in terms of their suitability. It is noted that the site options presented at this stage do not appear to affect playing fields and therefore Sport England have no specific comments to make at this stage. If however any site is identified for non-sporting use and contain playing fields or other sports facilities that Sport England have not commented on. Such sites would be an omission and the fact that Sport England has not commented on such sites, should not be interpreted that we have no objection.

Any **new housing** developments will generate additional demand for sport. If existing sports facilities do not have the capacity to absorb the additional demand, then planning policies should look to ensure that new sports facilities, or improvements to existing sports facilities, are secured and delivered. Proposed actions to meet the demand should accord with any approved local plan or neighbourhood plan policy for social infrastructure, along with priorities resulting from any assessment of need, or set out in any playing pitch or other indoor and/or outdoor sports facility strategy that the local authority has in place.

In addition to the sites appraisal set out above, it is also noted that the Local Green Space Study has appraised seven pieces of open land as candidates for the designation of Local Green Space. Of the seven sites considered, three are recommended for Local Green Space designation in the Neighbourhood Plan, including:

- Open space to the north of St. Nicholas School
- Football Ground off School Road
- South Shore Lawn Tennis Club

Whilst Sport England can see the logic of this approach, it is not uncommon for clubs to relocate to alternative sites when they experience growth. The designation of existing sports sites as Local Green Space would effectively stifle and restrict any potential future growth of the club owing to the fact they may need to release the existing site to enable them to grow. On this basis, Sport England would **not** be supportive of this policy approach going forward through the emerging Neighbourhood Plan.

Active Design

In line with the Government's NPPF (including Section 8) and its Planning Practice Guidance (Health and wellbeing section), links below, consideration should also be given to how **any new development**, especially for new housing, will provide opportunities for people to lead healthy lifestyles and create healthy communities. Sport England's Active Design guidance can be used to help with this when developing planning policies and developing or assessing individual proposals.

Active Design, which includes a model planning policy, provides ten principles to help ensure the design and layout of development encourages and promotes participation in sport and physical activity. The guidance, and its accompanying checklist, could also be used at the evidence gathering stage of developing a neighbourhood plan to help undertake an assessment of how the design and layout of the area currently enables people to lead active lifestyles and what could be improved.

NPPF Section 8: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework/8-promoting-healthy-communities>

PPG Health and wellbeing section: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/health-and-wellbeing>

Sport England's Active Design Guidance: <https://www.sportengland.org/activedesign>

(Please note: this response relates to Sport England's planning function only. It is not associated with our funding role or any grant application/award that may relate to the site.)

If you need any further advice, please do not hesitate to contact Sport England using the contact details below.

Yours sincerely,
Melanie Hughes
Planning Manager