

EXTERNAL WORKS AND IMPROVED SPORTS FACILITIES

AT

**MILLWORTH RECREATION GROUND,
MILLWORTH LANE, SHINFIELD, READING RG2 9EN**

LIGHTING ASSESSMENT

Date: 24th June 2024
Ref: TCG 6890 – *Lighting Assessment*

INTRODUCTION

This plan accompanies a planning application submitted to Wokingham Borough Council seeking consent to undertake external works and improvements to the sports facilities at the Millworth Lane recreation ground. It will describe the lighting requirement associated with the works, and explain how the proposals have been tailored to be compatible with the site location.

SITE CONTEXT

Whilst external lighting at the site is a requirement in conjunction with the use of the sports facilities at the site during periods where natural light is insufficient, the potential detriment that artificial lighting brings to the semi-rural setting of the site and the associated ecology and wildlife is duly noted. Therefore any scheme must be tailored to satisfy both requirements.

ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING REQUIREMENT

There are 2 elements to the scheme that require artificial lighting;

- Sports areas, namely the 3G pitch, basketball/netball court, and padel/tennis courts
- Exercise areas, namely the fitness zone, and the running track.

ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING PROPOSALS

By the nature of the application and the need to provide sufficient lighting across the playing areas, external lighting to the sports areas will be by way of pole-mounted floodlight fittings. Suitability for the location can be achieved by

- Ensuring sufficient light control so lights are switched off when areas are not in use
- Utilising hooded light fittings to ensure light is directed towards the playing area and avoiding light spill to the wider area
- Utilising bulbs with a suitable colour temperature that's compatible with wildlife.

Lighting to the fitness zone will be via light fittings mounted on the perimeter fence, ensuring they face inwards towards the area in use. The use of the fitness zone is supervised and also by appointment, allowing the operators to turn the lights off when the area is not in use.

Lighting to the exercise track is by way of solar powered bollard lights at regular spacings around the track. These are a passive installation, utilising solar power to charge during the day, and photocell control to illuminate as and when natural daylight diminishes. The lighting serves to provide a wash of light at ground level, sufficient for users to see from one light to the next and navigate their way around the loop. Whilst the lights won't automatically switch off when the area is not in use, the amount of light emitted will be suitably low to not cause wider detriment.

CONCLUSION

The above information is deemed sufficient at application stage, demonstrating the necessary balance of achieving sufficient lighting levels appropriate to the use of the site without being detrimental to the wider area. In the event that specific installation details are required, a pre-commencement condition to that effect on any forthcoming consent would be accepted and actioned.