



Wargrave Tennis Club
Recreation Ground
Wargrave, Berkshire, RG10 8BG
20th January 2026

Wargrave Tennis Club - Second Padel Court and Clubhouse Extension

Document 4 – Lighting Impact Statement

1. Introduction

This Lighting Impact Statement has been prepared in support of a full planning application by Wargrave Tennis Club (WTC) for development at the Recreation Ground, Recreation Road, Wargrave.

The statement accompanies proposals for:

- the reconfiguration of the existing approved padel court;
- the provision of a second 'pop-up' padel court adjacent to it;
- a single-storey pitched-roof extension to the north and south of the existing clubhouse

This statement should be read as an update and confirmation of the Floodlighting Impact Assessment approved in February 2025 for the existing padel court.

2. Background and Approved Lighting Context

Planning permission was granted in 2025 for a single pop-up padel court with integrated LED floodlighting. The approved scheme replaced existing tennis court lighting with bespoke padel lighting that was specifically designed to reduce overall light output and minimise light spill.

At the time of approval:

- the tennis court previously occupying the site was illuminated by high-level pylons with multiple high-wattage LED luminaires;
- the approved padel court lighting provided a substantial reduction in both overall wattage and pylon height.

The existing padel court has since been installed and is operating successfully without adverse lighting impacts.

3. Existing Tennis Court Lighting (2024)

Across the wider Tennis Club site, the existing tennis courts are illuminated by LED floodlighting mounted on 10-metre-high pylons. The former tennis court lighting at the padel court location comprised:

- four LED luminaires mounted on high pylons;
- a significantly higher total wattage than the approved padel lighting;
- light distribution designed for full tennis court illumination rather than a compact padel court.

This lighting arrangement formed the baseline condition against which the padel lighting was previously assessed.

4. Approved Padel Court Lighting (2025)

The approved padel court lighting comprises:

- four integrated LED luminaires;
- mounted on four 6-metre-high posts that form part of the padel court structure;
- significantly reduced total wattage compared with the former tennis court lighting;
- lighting angles specifically designed to minimise upward and outward light spill.

In addition, the existing lighting baseline at the site includes the continued use of two 10 metre tennis floodlight columns located at the southern end of the former tennis court, which provide illumination for the pickleball court. Together, the integrated 6 metre padel lighting and the limited operation of these two 10 metre columns form the established lighting baseline against which the current proposals should be assessed.

The approved lighting provides appropriate illumination for padel play while reducing the overall visual and environmental impact of floodlighting within the recreation ground.

5. Proposed Lighting for the Reconfigured Padel Courts (2026)

The proposed development includes the rotation of the existing padel court by 90 degrees (from a north–south to an east–west orientation) to enable the installation of a second adjacent padel court, together with a retained pickleball court. Both padel courts will have integrated LED floodlighting that is identical in specification, height, output, and hours of operation to the lighting approved for the existing padel court in 2025. Specifically:

- the same number of luminaires will be used;
- luminaires will be mounted at the same height (6 metre columns);
- wattage and light output will be the same;
- lighting angles and cut-off characteristics will match the approved scheme;
- hours of operation will remain unchanged from those previously approved.

Retention of existing 10 metre tennis floodlight columns

As part of the works, the existing 10 metre tennis floodlight columns adjacent to the former tennis court will be retained and reinstated. This is primarily to maintain long-term flexibility should the area be returned to tennis use in the future. However, their operational use will remain limited and consistent with current practice:

- the north-east and north-west 10 metre columns will not be used and will remain switched off;
- the south-east and south-west 10 metre columns will remain operational only to illuminate the pickleball court.

Accordingly, no additional high-level floodlighting is introduced, and the padel courts continue to rely solely on their integrated 6 metre lighting.

6. Lighting Impact Assessment

The reconfiguration of the existing padel court and provision of a second identical court will not introduce new or materially different lighting impacts.

When considered in context:

- the approved padel lighting already represents a reduction in lighting impact compared to former tennis court lighting;
- the second court introduces lighting of the same low-level, integrated design;
- the retained 10 metre columns do not increase lighting impacts, as two remain switched off and the remaining two continue to serve the pickleball court only;
- cumulative lighting levels remain appropriate for an established recreation ground with existing floodlit courts.

The east–west reorientation of the courts does not increase light spill beyond the site boundaries and maintains the same containment characteristics as the approved scheme.

7. Residential Amenity and Light Spill

The lighting strategy has been designed to safeguard residential amenity by:

- limiting luminaire height;
- controlling lighting direction and spread;
- avoiding upward light spill.

Given that the proposed padel lighting is identical to that already approved and operating on site, and that the retained 10 metre columns will continue to operate in a limited way (with the north pair switched off), no adverse impact on neighbouring properties is anticipated.

8. Conclusion

This Lighting Impact Statement confirms that:

- the proposed lighting for the second padel court is identical to the scheme approved in 2025;
- the retained 10 metre tennis floodlights do not increase lighting impacts, as two columns remain switched off and the remaining two illuminate the pickleball court only;
- overall lighting impact remains lower than the former tennis court lighting arrangement;
- there will be no unacceptable impact on visual amenity or neighbouring residential properties.

This is illustrated on the submitted elevation drawings, which show 6 metre integrated padel lighting compared with the former 10 metre tennis lighting baseline.

It is therefore concluded that the proposed development is acceptable in lighting terms and accords with planning policy and good practice.

Drone image of the current courts (taken from the south-east) showing the current padel court (with integrated 6 meter pylons) and pickleball court (using two of the four existing 10 meter pylons).



Representative model image of the proposals showing the lighting columns for the second padel court and the retention of all four existing 10-meter pylons (with only the two southern pylons being used for the pickleball court) .

