

52/2006/044

QUEEN'S COLLEGE

**ERECTION OF TELESCOPIC LIGHTING COLUMNS TO FLOODLIGHT HOCKEY PITCH AND WARM UP AREA AT QUEENS COLLEGE, TRULL ROAD, TAUNTON**

321524/123085

FULL

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**PROPOSAL**

This application is for the erection of 6 telescopic lighting columns around the main hockey pitch and 4 non-telescopic lighting columns around the knock up area. The 6 columns around the main pitch would be 5 m high when retracted and 15 m high when in use and the 4 columns around the knock up pitch would be 6 m in height.

**CONSULTATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS**

LIGHTING CONSULTANT I am concerned that the light sources/reflections may be visible and there should be a condition to ensure that the luminaries are shielded after the commissioning but before the lighting is used.

LANDSCAPE OFFICER Given the retractable nature of the lighting columns, other than when in use the proposals will have very little landscape impact.

PARISH COUNCIL support the application provided the lights are retracted when not in use; a time limit of 9.30 is placed upon them similar to the Civil Service club next door.

6 LETTERS OF OBJECTION have been received raising the following points:- the lights will cause high level light pollution; the lighting will be unsightly and result in noise lasting all evening and possible later, the level of lighting will intrude into the rural area and impact on the entrance to Ferndale Drive, the Honiton Road and beyond.

**POLICY CONTEXT**

Taunton Deane Local Plan Policy S1 (E) General Requirements EN34 Control of External Lighting.

**ASSESSMENT**

The proposed telescopic flood lighting and poles are situated along the west and east boundaries of the pitch. This will result in lights 43 m from and facing the rear of residential properties in Ferndale Drive. The lighting poles will interrupt the views of the valley from those residential properties and, to reduce this impact, Queen's School are proposing telescopic lighting poles for the main pitch that will be retracted to 5 m in height when not in use. In order to control the impact of the illumination on Ferndale Drive and other surrounding residential properties, conditions are

recommended to ensure that the lights are switched off at 9.30pm and that the luminaires are shielded so that the light source/lens is not visible from the properties. The 4 floodlights for the knock up pitch will be fixed at 6 m in height. This will provide a lesser degree of illumination and their impact on the surrounding area will be less than those of the main pitch. The school will use the lights during sport lessons and for practices and matches throughout the week. They have confirmed their agreement that the lights will be retracted in periods when they are not in use.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Permission be Granted subject to conditions of time limit, floodlighting to be erected in accordance with submitted details, telescopic floodlights to be kept in the retracted position when not in use, floodlights shall not be illuminated other than between the hours of 9.00 am and 9.30p m, following their commissioning but prior to operation the lights shall be inspected by the Local Planning Authority to ensure that the luminaires are cowled such that the light source and lens are not visible from Ferndale Drive or other residential properties, such lights shall be maintained as such thereafter.

**REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION:-** The proposed lighting will enable full and safe use of the school sport pitch in accordance with Taunton Deane Local Plan Policy EN34

**In preparing this report the Planning Officer has considered fully the implications and requirements of the Human Rights Act 1998.**

**CONTACT OFFICER: 356467 MRS J MOORE**

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