

192049 - Queen Anne's School Henley Road Caversham Reading RG4 6DX

Additional statement from the Caversham and District Residents Association 11 January 2021

CADRA expresses appreciation to Officers, Councillors, and the School for working to reduce the impact of the new sports facilities on residents in the surrounding area. We welcome the restricted hours during school term and the change in overflow parking with access from Henley Road and not Grosvenor Road.

The report makes no reference to any use in the school holidays. We request a further condition restricting use by other groups during the school holidays.

Original Statement - 29 February 2020

The Caversham and District Residents Association wishes to oppose this application. It is particularly disappointing that there is no drawing which shows the tennis court enclosure building, the lighting masts and fencing in context with the site as a whole and adjoining properties, so that the impact can be judged.

Impact on Listed Buildings

Several of the school buildings are listed. The limited details of the proposed indoor tennis provision suggest an industrial style building which, along with the high towers, would detract from the listed buildings. It is unacceptable that no details or drawings are provided of a building of this scale.

Natural Environment

The large playing fields are an important green lung and wildlife corridor. No provision is shown for new landscaping or replacement of trees lost or any form of screening. The implied level of usage would result in significant loss of habitat.

Light and Noise

There are homes very close to the playing area which would be affected by the height of the new facilities, the floodlighting and the noise and general disturbance. Field View, the elderly residents of Mander Court and Henley Road would be particularly affected.

Possible relocation of Caversham Lawn Tennis Club

The relocation of the club would raise significant issues which are not adequately addressed in this application. The extended hours and quantity of use would significantly increase the disturbance to local people. The expected times of use set out in the application in no way reflect the current hours of the Lawn Tennis Club and require clarification. The access arrangements for the club require far more detailed consideration. The additional traffic and parking would have a substantial impact on both Grosvenor and Derby Road, creating substantial problems for the residents responsible for the upkeep of these roads. Overspill parking is likely to damage the grass verges and trees on these roads, which are an important amenity for the surrounding area.

CADRA submits that the application does not adequately address the substantial changes which would impact on the area around the school and urges rejection.