

Planning, Design & Access Statement

Hinckley Town Cricket Club, Leicester Road, Hinckley LE10 3DR
Extension to sports pavilion/clubhouse

The Proposal

This is a full application for a proposed two storey extension incorporating larger bar/lounge area, an external viewing gallery & additional toilet facility.

The existing club house needs to be upgraded to ensure it is fit for purpose for modern day community cricket. In addition, the cricket club proposes to use the rugby club blueprint in having match day sponsorship & other social functions to enhance income to the club.

The building has had very little investment since the mid-1990s, is very dated & unattractive.

The aim is to increase playing membership of the club to approximately 150 people (men, women & children). The present club would only provide for about 40 members & in addition the club wishes to open a more commercial operation which in turn, would attract more non-playing members/sponsors.

In the last year the membership has gone from a small handful of members to more than 60 children as playing members. Next year expectations are to have a senior team with approximately 25 additional playing members.

The Site & Surrounding Area

The site shares access with the tennis, netball & rugby clubs. Access to the site is existing & it is unlikely that the proposed facilities will add any additional or excessive traffic on cricket club match days.

Use of the Building

The building was originally a combined use as squash courts & cricket club facilities. The squash club has now vacated & the proposal is to provide indoor fitness & training facilities, along with extended social & spectating areas.

Planning Policy

The proposed extension is supported by national planning policy and all relevant saved policies of the local Development Plan.

Design

The proposal is relatively small regarding visual impact & the surrounding area. However, it will increase the area available for social entertainment, a viewing gallery for spectators to enjoy watching the cricket from & much improved toilet facilities.

Access

There is no proposed change to the existing access and parking arrangements.

Facilities for disabled access to the building are presently poor & the proposal will include the provision of ramps to main entrance doors. Additional facilities will be provided within the building including a lift & W.C. suitable for wheelchair users.

Parking & Highway Safety

At present there are 30 parking spaces illustrated on the submitted plan associated with the cricket club. When social functions take place, Hinckley Rugby Football Club who have a vested interest in the club, have agreed to the use of the 80 parking space area adjacent to the cricket club. As the cricket & rugby seasons operate at different times of the year this proposal is easily accommodated.