Hi Phil

The area of the application is identified within the Green Space strategy as Butlers Field and informal local open space with a catchment of 300m. It is beyond the catchment for the 2 existing equipped play areas in Groby and therefore a LAP should be provided. In addition a development of this size would be expected to provide the relevant amount usable informal open space on site. As much of the open space provided is provided for ecological reasons i.e. as a foraging area for the badger set it will need to be managed and maintained as a wildlife area and therefore cannot be used for the LAP. In addition, parents of young children will have safety concerns in allowing their children to play near the pond. The LAP therefore needs to be provided elsewhere within the development area.

Groby has land for sports pitches but these are undeveloped. I would therefore suggest that an off site contribution for formal provision would be acceptable but that this should be clearly linked to the improvement and provision of pitches on the Stamford Road or Quarry Parks. This needs to be agreed with the Parish Council who will manage and maintain these pitches. Also access from the development to the other open spaces in Groby needs to be improved. Older children will need safe pedestrian routes to play provision for older children in Groby.

If you need any further information please just ask.

Caroline Roffey

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