

Consideration of the Nation Planning Policy Framework and the Enforcement Notice 23/00258/UNBLDS was made when making this application.

Planning permission is sought for change of use to allow a shipping container owned by Burroughs Hill Bowmen archery club to be located on ground at Ratby sports club.

Ratby Sports club is a predominantly an area of sports pitches used by the local cricket and football teams. When the enforcement notice was issued, the planning officer was not aware that the grounds were also being used by Burroughs Hill Bowmen archery club and had been since 2014.

The shipping container has been on the site for 9 1/5 years and is used for the storage of equipment solely connected with the archery club. Our orange shipping container is a temporary structure, it is able to be moved around the site with minimal disruption. Other containers have more recently been added to the site by the new owner and are not connected with this application.

Due to the safety considerations and constraints imposed on archery clubs by their governing body Archery GB, it is very hard to find fields large enough to be able to host archery clubs. Ratby is one of these rare sites and having an archery club here enhances the recreational facilities on the land and wider area.

The new owner of the Ratby club Anthony Blanchard, is also developing the site to include facilities for children with special learning needs and the archery club is supportive of this aim and has offered to give archery classes to the children as part of their wider experiences and development.

The enforcement notice also referred to concerns about the siting of the container in its current location due to its close proximity to the brook and potential flood risk.

We are proposing to relocate the container to the opposite side of the field. It will be positioned against the southern boundary hedge of Ratby Sports club, next to the football pitch on the raised ground, approximately 200metres from its current location. At present the area is a rough grass and hawthorn scrub.

The container would be sited along side the mature hedge and tree boundary. This location means that the container can only be seen when actually standing on the upper football pitch and not from the lower football or cricket pitches. It can be painted and shrubs planted around it if necessary, to make it blend in further.

If permission is refused for the re-siting of the container, then we will have to relocate, possibly out of the borough. This would of course mean the loss of a local amenity as

well as a reduction in mid week
spending in the local shops and pubs
which we support.