

Covering Statement

Planning Application APP/18/00350 at Bartons Green, Wakefords Way, Havant

The submitted application (APP/18/00350) for minor exterior alterations to the pavilion at Bartons Green is a priority project for Havant Borough Council's Sport and Leisure team. The application refers to the relocation of external doors and the addition of a refreshment serving hatch. These are two aspects of a wider full internal refurbishment of the pavilion, required to regenerate a dilapidated facility. Without modernising, the progression of Widbrook Utd FC, who are the tenant occupiers, is limited. This impacts Havant Borough Council's vision for a more prosperous, vibrant and active borough.

Widbrook Utd FC are the largest provider of womens, girls and boys football within the borough and the pavilion refurbishment will allow them to grow their offer, through occupying fully compliant facilities that meet modern day safeguarding standards.

Junior and female players and their parents are discouraged from participation given the current condition of the facility. The pavilion is no longer fit for purpose in supporting modern sports delivery and prevents Widbrook Utds player retention and attraction, hampering the long term sustainability of the club and subsequent physical activity levels of Havant residents.

The addition of the serving hatch will allow the club to serve refreshments to players, parents and spectators during match days. A vital source of income for the club. The new double door locations, will meet football league requirements allowing teams to progress through league promotions. The proposed external alterations will enable a practical, safe internal layout to be designed as part of the refurbishment project.

The project is due to bring in circa £150,000 of external funding to Havant Borough Council, required to complete the works. If planning permission is not achieved the project would not be in a position to progress.