
FIVE A SIDE FOOTBALL, FAIRVIEW PLAYING FIELD (Min 51/01)

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report advises Members of the results of the public consultation concerning the provision of basketball or five-a-side football on Fairview Playing Field.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 At the meeting of the Community Services Committee on 30th January 2001, Members resolved.

1. That basketball be the preferred option on this site
2. That Officers investigate securing two basketball goals from EOBI for this initiative
3. That public consultation be undertaken with properties in Victoria Road and Hockley Road, Rayleigh and that this matter be referred to Full Council at its meeting on 27 February 2001 following public consultation.

3 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

- 3.1 A covering letter and questionnaire, which are attached at Appendix A, were agreed with the Ward Member and sent to a total of 32 properties. The Crime Reduction Officer at Rayleigh Police Station was also consulted. There were a total of 26 responses and the results are as follows:

Install two basketball rings	8
Install 5-a-side football goals	5
Area to remain as it is	9
Either basketball or 5-a-side	4

- 3.2 The comments included with the returns are included in Appendix B

4 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Crime Reduction Officer from Rayleigh Police Station has stated that he does not envisage any change in crime and disorder issues in the area should basketball or five-a-side football be provided. He has, however, suggested that high chain link fencing be erected around the area to keep the ball in the court and that the lighting is improved and put on a timer switch. Installation of lighting would be subject to planning permission

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The cost of providing the basketball facility is estimated at £10,700 which includes the cost of providing the goals as these are no longer available from the English Basketball Association, Outdoor Basketball Initiative.
- 5.2 The additional works requested by the Crime Reduction Officer are estimated to cost a maximum of £11,000. This could reduce by £5,000 if it is found that the electricity supply runs past the site.
- 5.3 At the Council meeting held on the 23rd January 2001, it was agreed in principle that the costs of this project be met from the revised capital programme.

6 PARISH IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Fairview Playing Field lies within the Rayleigh Town Council area.

9 RECOMMENDATION

It is proposed that Council **RESOLVES**

To install basketball goals on the former croquet lawn in Fairview Playing Field.

R Crofts

Corporate Director (Finance & External Services)

Background Papers:

Returns from public consultation

For further information please contact Eva McIlwaine on: -

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FAIRVIEW PLAYING FIELD

OPTION FOR FORMER CROQUET LAWN

Please tick the box relating to your preferred option.

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. | Install 2 basketball goals | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. | Install 5-a-side football goals | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. | Area to remain as it is | <input type="checkbox"/> |

COMMENTS INCLUDED WITH CONSULTATION RESPONSES

1. In 30 years there has never been any sign of a croquet lawn on this area of ground. As with the tennis courts on the other side of the field, the concern is that of attracting youngsters onto the field, without proper supervision, and resultant vandalism and poor behaviour. It is very close to the pavilion which would undoubtedly also attract attention of an unwelcome kind.
2. As I live close to the location of the proposed installation, more so than the location of the tennis courts, I anticipate a considerable amount of noise and inconvenience. (The car park adjoins my garden). I am all for finding some interests for the youngsters of Rayleigh as I appreciate that there are few options available to them but I have experienced a considerable problem in Fairview Park since I moved here some 12 years ago. I have on many occasions had to call the police because of problems with youths in the park (taking drugs and alcohol) and last year was the best with no trouble at all. I believe the introduction of basketball and 5-a-side will give rise to problems again as the minority will spoil it for the majority and we will have problems again.
3. Many thanks for this excellent proposal. Would it be possible to have a court that could cater for both basketball and football?
4. I confirm I have no objection to the site referred to being used for either basketball or 5-a-side football.
5. Whilst we have no means of assessing whether basketball or 5-a-side football have the greater need and support we would support the use of the prescribed area for one or other of these pursuits or preferably both, if both could be accommodated in some way. Thank you for giving the opportunity to comment.
6. Confirming telephone conversation with Eva McIlwaine, the option of basketball is on the understanding that this is for purely casual use by local youngsters and not for the use of adult clubs with the resulting parking problems.
7. Please ensure protection for the toddlers and other young children in the adjoining swings area.