
FAIRVIEW TENNIS COURTS (Min 196/00)

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Following a request from Members, a report was submitted to the last meeting of this committee suggesting options for alternative uses of two of the tennis courts on Fairview Playing Field.
- 1.2 At the meeting of the Community Services Committee on 27th June 2000, it was resolved:

“That the matter be deferred pending a public consultation exercise, to include the three options for tennis, basketball and 5-a-side football with the residential properties, as those roads adjoining the site, with Rayleigh Town Council and with a reply paid service being used to ensure maximum response. (The details of the consultation to be confirmed in consultation with the Chairman of the leisure Sub Committee and Ward Members.)

2 THE PROCESS

- 2.1 The Chairman of Leisure Sub Committee and a Ward Member met with the Leisure Client Officer and agreed the extent of the public consultation. Letters were sent out to 83 properties on 7th August with a request that the questionnaires be returned by 23rd August. Prepaid envelopes were provided.

3 RESULTS OF CONSULTATION

- 3.1 A total of 62 responses were received which equates to a return rate of 74%. The results were as follows

Install 4 basketball goals	3
Install 5-a-side football goals	2
Retain as tennis courts	57

- 3.2 A number of comments were received and these are summarised at Appendix 1 of the report.

4 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Provision of sport and leisure facilities has been proven to divert young people away from crime and anti social behaviour.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 A budget figure of £10,800 has already been identified for resurfacing the tennis courts.

6 PARISH IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The site is situated within the Rayleigh Town Council area.

7 RECOMMENDATION

It is proposed that the Sub-Committee **RECOMMENDS**

1. That the results of the consultation are noted.
2. That the tennis courts are retained.
3. That Community Services Committee is requested to release the sum of £10,800 to enable the resurfacing of the tennis courts to proceed. (CD(F&ES))

Corporate Director (Finance & External Services)

Background Papers:

Results of consultation exercise

For further information please contact Miss E McIlwaine on (01702) 546366

Appendix 1

Comments – Public Consultation

Option 1 – Basketball

Option 2 – 5-a-side

Option 3 – Tennis

Option	Comment	No of respondents
1	Increase the variety of activities in the park	2
	Use the two tennis courts for basketball/netball/rollerskating	1
	5-a-side goals unnecessary – always goals on playing field – need proper net to play basketball	1
2	More pleasurable for public to watch 5-a-side football	1
3	Enough space allocated to football and basketball	10
	Tennis caters for all ages and both sexes	11
	5-a-side and basketball would generate too much noise	14
	Tennis courts very popular	9
	Reintroduce park keeper to monitor use of courts	2
	Site 5-a-side & basketball elsewhere	4
	Parking and toilet facilities inadequate	7
	Tarmac existing 5-a-side pitch	6