Wythenshawe Tennis Facility planning application – additional information

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Background information

Manchester Tennis Beacon initiative has been developed to increase the number of people playing tennis across the city whilst contributing to a healthier lifestyle. The Manchester Beacon Tennis Initiative has been supported by the Lawn Tennis Association with a grant of £327k matched by MCC £55k. This will fund a new 4 floodlit court tennis facility in Alexandra Park as well as the refurbishment of the courts in Wythenshawe park. Please see appendix J and K for further information on the tennis activity programme intended for Wythenshawe Park and across the city at key facilities

Supporting Evidence for Wythenshawe Tennis facility refurbishment

Wythenshawe Park has been identified as one of five tennis facilities to create a Tennis Beacon Network across the city – the other identified tennis facilities are:

- Manchester Tennis & Football Centre
- Chorlton Park
- Wright Robinson College
- Alexandra Park – new facility planned to open Autumn 2013

The above named facilities have been identified in the first wave of facilities to develop community tennis programmes and will see a range of tennis initiatives being delivered which will include Social, Coaching and Competitive opportunities whilst providing fun and affordable tennis activities for Manchester residents to engage in as part of a healthy lifestyle. In addition Manchester is aspiring to become a leading UK tennis participating city by 2017

The programme will deliver current tennis initiatives endorsed by the Lawn Tennis Association such as

- Mini Tennis – *adaptive version of the game using reduced size court, rackets and slower bouncing balls*
- Tennis Xpress – *a unique crash course for adult beginners teaching the basics in 6 weeks*
- Cardio Tennis – *an aerobic workouts session using tennis*
- Short Tennis – *Mini tennis for adults*

In addition there is an aspiration to grow an all inclusive tennis club for all ages and abilities at the park which will field teams in local leagues as well as hosting and promoting various tournaments itself in the park

In order to deliver the aspiration of a Beacon tennis programme a number of volunteering and coaching opportunities will be created. MCC sports development have been delivering a rolling programme of Tennis coach education courses to train up existing volunteers and other potential tennis coaches in order to deliver programmes across the city. Thus providing local residents with appropriate skills in order to deliver tennis activity and also possibly to gain employment in the tennis coaching sector. It's initially envisaged the Tennis activity coaching programme will provide work for 2 part time coaches during the first 18 months. and the number of coaches will grow as the programme expands.

Therefore providing Manchester residents with a positive outcomes by participating in sport one of which is contributing to a healthier lifestyle, whilst creating employment and volunteering opportunities which will benefit the communities of Wythenshawe

Purpose for Planning Permission

The purpose to seek planning permission is to increase the number of floodlit tennis courts in Wythenshawe Park from the existing 3 courts to 6 as the additional floodlighting will allow us to deliver and maintain an all year round tennis activity programme in the park serving its community.

As we need to carry out an conditional structural survey of the existing columns (Columns marked C5, C6, C7 and C8 as indicated in Appendix C) in order to establish the columns can accommodate the additional floodlighting units. Therefore we are submitting two options dependent on the outcome of survey. Option 1 will utilise the existing columns with additional floodlight units. Option 2 is being submitted should there be a need to increase the number of columns to accommodate the additional floodlight units for courts 4 to 6.

Floodlighting scheme - Option 1 – *please refer to Appendix B*

- 4 new floodlight columns each of 10m height
- 12 new floodlights will be hung on the columns in the following configuration
    - 2 new columns(C9 & C12) with 1 floodlight unit hung on each column
    - 2 new columns (C10 & C11) with 2 floodlight units hung on each column
    - 2 existing columns (C5 & C8) accommodating 1 extra floodlight unit per column
        - These columns will now consist of 1 existing and 1 new floodlight unit per column = 2 per column
    - 2 existing columns (C6 & C7) accommodating 2 extra floodlight units per column
        - These columns will now consist of 2 existing and 2 new floodlight units per column = 4 per column

Floodlighting scheme - Option 2 – *please refer to Appendix C*

- 8 new floodlight columns each of 10m height
    - Columns to be inserted in the corners of each court as indicated in Appendix C
- 12 new floodlights will be hung on the columns in the following configuration
    - 4 new columns (C9, C12, C13 & C16) with 1 floodlight unit hung on each column
    - 4 new columns (C10, C11, C14 & C15) with 2 floodlight units hung on each column

Additional floodlighting information

- The existing distribution/control panel is to be re-used by the floodlighting contractor. It is located in the switch room of the Tennis Building.
- Power cables will be installed between the control panel and the columns. The existing control cable and control switches are to be re-used.
- With regards to control systems the following are to be included at this stage:
    - 1 Master time clock (re-using existing time clock) with a curfew time of 10pm being programmed in
        - Please note we are looking at tennis activity to finish by 9.30pm in order to exit safely from the courts prior to the curfew of 10pm
    - 3 ‘Hours run’ counters within the central control panel.
    - 3 Sets of manual control per court (at existing location in the Tennis Building)
- 3 Egress lights – one on each court.
- 6 Power sockets located at the end and between the courts (four to replace existing serving courts 1, 2 & 3).
- 1 Power socket key switch - re-uses existing circuit and relocate the fishtail key switch within the Tennis Building.

Heritage Statement

Wythenshawe Park is also home to Wythenshawe Hall.

The locality of the tennis courts which is the subject of this planning application for refurbishment is at the existing location and is approximately located 400 metres from the hall. The refurbishment of the tennis courts should not have a detrimental impact to the hall or its users. Although the scheme will include floodlighting to an additional 3 courts this again should not have any additional impact to the hall as presently there are already 3 courts which are floodlit at the same tennis location. The proposed new floodlighting scheme will be more efficient and effective lighting scheme than the existing scheme which presently illuminates one block of 3 floodlit courts. Improvements to floodlighting schemes as per this application have significantly improved in recent years through improvements in technology and design which will result in a more efficient and effective floodlight scheme as the ne floodlight units will direct the light which specifically targets the areas required reduces spillage to outside of this area. The new floodlight scheme with modern fittings is designed to shine light to specific areas of the court whilst reducing Vertical light trespass outside of the target area. Please see floodlight spillage in accompanying documents in appendices “C” and “D”.

Please also see accompanying supporting evidence

- Appendix A - Ayrelect – floodlighting consultant to the LTA
- Appendix B – Ayrelect – court diagram of floodlighting scheme option1
- Appendix C –Court diagram of floodlighting scheme option2 with extra columns
- Appendix D - Deltalux – floodlight – 3 court spillage
- Appendix E - Deltalux – floodlight – Court 4 TPA + PPA + Spillage
- Appendix F – Wythenshawe locality plan
- Appendix G – Picture of existing lighting column and floodlight unit
- Appendix H – Picture of proposed new lighting columns which have also been installed at Manchester Tennis & Football Centre – Etihad Campus
- Appendix I – Proposed Philips MVP507 - Flood light unit
- Appendix J – Wythenshawe Park tennis Development plan
- Appendix K – Manchester Beacon Tennis Initiative