



DURSLEY RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Lighting Proposals

Stinchcombe Parish Meeting

10th July 2024

The need:

The club has invested significantly into the playing surfaces over the last few years including the installation of the 'New Pitch' alongside the car park. The intention is for this pitch to be the Club's premier playing surface which will provide all year round use.

Existing lighting has been installed on the remote top pitch and in the paddock (which is unplayable after wet weather). Lighting on the 'New Pitch' will provide additional playing/training capacity for existing demand and will allow the club to develop all sections including women's and girl's rugby and youth rugby.

The club car park is used throughout the year serving the many sports, fitness and social activities at the club. The club is aware of its health and safety and safeguarding responsibilities and lighting to cover this area is required.



The proposals - location

Figure 2:
Site Assessment

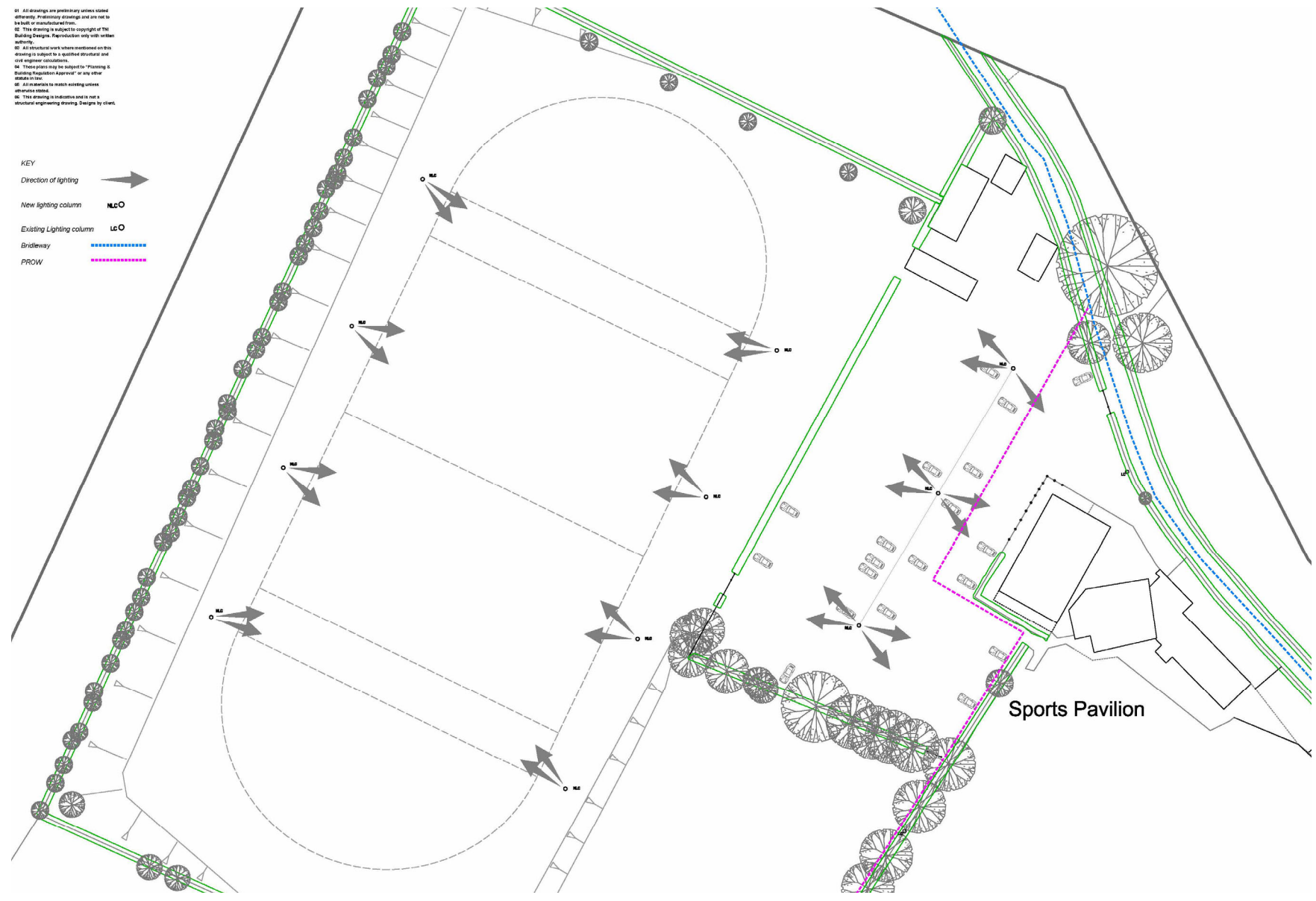
Nb: Existing lighting yellow



The proposals - location

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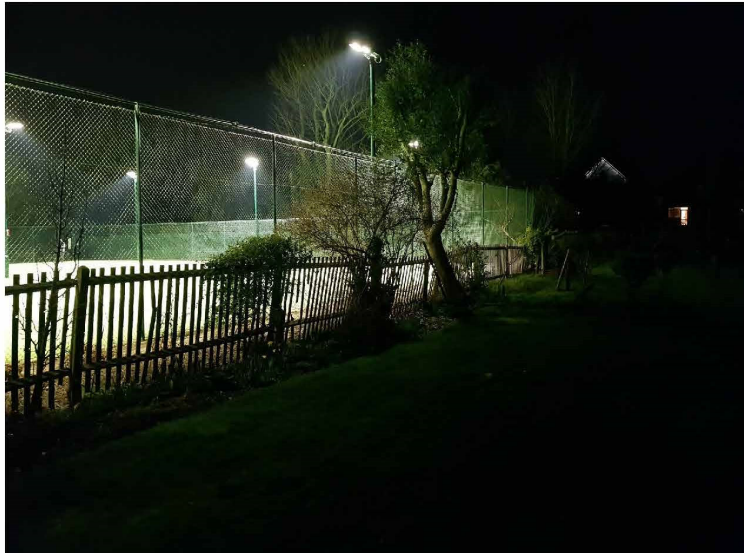
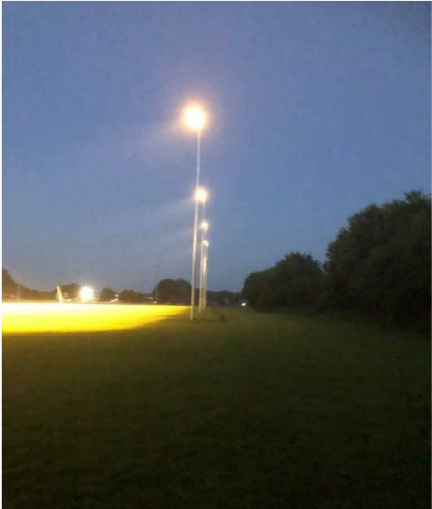
- KEY**
- Direction of lighting →
 - New lighting column **NLC** ○
 - Existing Lighting column **LC** ○
 - Bridleway **-----**
 - PROW **-----**



The proposals - Light spill



The proposals - pitch lighting examples



The proposals

Hours of use: Playing pitch until 21.30, Car Park until 23.00

Planning consultant:

The proposed lighting scheme would provide several benefits for Dursley RFC concerning both on and off-field activities. The lighting will help improve public safety, provide the club with enhanced facilities for matches, and to run training sessions. The club has a wide variety of teams with limited lit areas for training and none for matches. Therefore, the social and economic benefits to the club would outweigh any limited harm to the AONB.

Ecological consultant:

Mitigation to reduce light spill included design changes to the positioning and number of lighting columns as well as orientation and direction of luminaires. Light levels of <1 lux at boundary features is expected apart from the northern carpark boundary where 1-5 lux is expected to the north-west but a significant reduction is expected to the south-east (25 lux to 1-2 lux). Based on the modelling set out by Highlights Floodlighting (Collins, 2024) as well as operational schedules, the potential impact of light spill on bats is not expected to significantly constrain their movement or local foraging habits.



Preapplication advice from Stroud District Council

“Policy CP15 of the adopted SDLP provides guidance for development outside settlement development limits. This policy seeks to protect the separate identity of settlements and the quality of the countryside. Proposals will not be permitted except where it adheres to the principles detailed within this policy. Most relevant to this application would be principle 2, this allows for proposals that are essential to be located there in order to promote public enjoyment of the countryside and support the rural economy through employment, sport, leisure and tourism.”

“Policy EI11 supports improvements to existing sport facilities subject to various criteria. The principle of the use of the land as rugby pitches and floodlighting has already been established by the planning permissions as detailed above. The location of the floodlights would be located mostly close to existing built forms.”

“You have submitted a lighting scheme and Preliminary Ecology Appraisal (PEA) with this proposal. I have gone over this application with the Councils Biodiversity team. It is advised that all the information that has been submitted with this enquiry is submitted with a full planning application and that the recommendations contained within the PEA should be fully implemented where necessary. Apart from that no objections were raised with regards to this proposal.”

“The site already has established access onto the public highway and there is a large car park that serves the site. The proposal would be for floodlights that would be for an existing rugby pitch. There are no additional pitches being created so the demand for parking would not increase in number but may increase the time the existing facilities are used. Due to the proposed development, it is considered that there would be no significant change from the existing use of the site with regards to increase numbers for additional parking and the proposal would be supported.”

“If an application is submitted I would support this proposal as the impact upon the wider setting would be limited and the development would support the established sporting facilities at the site.”





THANK YOU