

From: David Barrs [REDACTED]  
Sent: 20 June 2025 13:13  
To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>  
Subject: ref. Planning Application S62A/2025/0107

Ref. Former Friends School site, Mount Pleasant Road, Saffron Walden CB11 3EB

I write as chairman of Saffron Walden Cricket Club.

When the Friends School was functioning we enjoyed an excellent relationship with the school. We had access to the sports hall for indoor practice in the winter and also access to their cricket pitch for senior matches on a Saturday plus junior matches at various times during the week.

The sports hall had a firm granwood floor which is recommended for indoor cricket practice. There is no other such facility in Saffron Walden and we now have to travel to Bishop's Stortford or Cambridge.

The cricket square and outfield was maintained by the school.

The new plans include a relocated pitch which is much smaller and with limited provision for maintenance.

There is no provision to replace the indoor facility. This could be done by way of an off-site contribution or incorporated into the design of what we consider to be an overlarge clubhouse.

I acknowledge that there has been consultation which was offered within days of the previous refusal. There had been no consultation prior to that. However, the consultation has led to no tangible improvements other than a commitment to a cricket square of 8 strips. We have also asked for a non-turf strip to improve access for junior matches. The developers agreed to that.

As it stands, therefore, we have to object to the proposals in their current iteration.

David Barrs  
Chairman  
Saffron Walden Cricket Club