

From: [Emma Osborn](#)
To: [Section 62A Applications Non Major](#)
Subject: S62A/2025/0133 -Stoke Lodge Playing Fields, West Dene, Shirehampton, Bristol BS9 2BH
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S62A/2025/0133

Stoke Lodge Playing Fields, West Dene, Shirehampton, Bristol BS9 2B

Objection to 8 CCTV cameras and poles

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing as a local resident to object to the proposal to erect eight CCTV cameras and poles at Stoke Lodge.

Stoke Lodge is designated as Important Open Space with recognised value for recreation, leisure, and community use. As someone who regularly enjoys this cherished community space, the installation of large CCTV poles represents a significant and unacceptable intrusion into personal privacy.

The school typically uses only the top third of the site, yet it already has six existing CCTV cameras mounted on the pavilion and storage hut. There is no justification for installing a further four CCTV towers in the same upper section of the field. Furthermore, the school rarely uses the lower half of the field, raising the question of why cameras are proposed there at all.

The applicant asserts that CCTV is required to monitor pupils 100% of the time. In reality, pupils are supervised by staff during all activities on the site and are not left unsupervised. The suggestion that there is a risk of assault or abduction is wholly unsupported by evidence. BS9 is one of the lowest-crime areas in Bristol, and there are no recorded incidents of theft, assault, or abduction on these playing fields. As such, the justification for such extensive surveillance is weak, disproportionate, and unnecessary.

It is also important to note that these cameras would capture far more footage of members of the public—who use the fields daily—than of pupils, who are present only during term time and for limited hours each week. This is a clear and unreasonable invasion of privacy for local residents and recreational users.

I also understand that at least one of the proposed poles (Camera 5, and possibly Camera 4) would obstruct an established public right of way, further impacting the amenity of this valued open space.

While CCTV can improve security in high-risk environments, this area is not one of them. The scale and positioning of the proposed surveillance infrastructure is excessive relative to any genuine risk and would materially harm the experience of users of the land.

Stoke Lodge is a beautiful and much-loved green space. The visual impact of tall CCTV poles—on top of the existing fencing—creates an atmosphere akin to institutional or prison-like grounds, wholly at odds with the character and community value of this important inner-city green space.

For the reasons above, the proposal would:

- harm the setting of the listed building,

- diminish the historic and landscape character of the parkland,
- reduce the amenity and enjoyment of several public rights of way, and
- intrude unacceptably upon the privacy of local residents and users of the site.

The applicant has not demonstrated any overriding public benefit, nor explored less harmful alternatives. As such, the proposal conflicts with the statutory duty to preserve the setting of listed buildings and with national and local planning policies relating to heritage, landscape, design, and public open space.

I therefore respectfully request that the application be refused.

If, despite these concerns, the Inspectorate is minded to grant permission, I ask that this be restricted to a temporary, time-limited consent and subject to strict conditions—specifically prohibiting illumination or any additional equipment without separate approval.

Yours sincerely,

Emma Osborn