

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 01 December 2025 15:21  
To: Section 62A Applications Non Major  
<section62anonmajor@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>  
Subject: S62A/2025/0133 Stoke Lodge Playing Fields, West Dene, Shirehampton,  
Bristol BS9 2BH

To whom it may concern

My name is [REDACTED] My objection to the application comes from a purely, pragmatic, locals perspective. All the legal arguments will be well represented by legal council and planning experts. I do not wish to make any oral submission to the enquiry.

I am objecting to the above above planning application, as a local resident, who has lived here for [REDACTED]. We had a dog for 17 of those years and I took our dog for a walk on Stoke lodge, almost every day.

I can say, with absolute certainty, that at least 90% of the time that I was there and when passing Stoke lodge, during the day, there was absolutely no sport activity, of any kind. In fact, most of the sports took place at the weekend, involving some lacrosse, and Mini and Junior football. All these took place, entirely on the top end of the field. During the Summer terms, the top field was laid out for athletics, with a running track; which, again was only used a couple of afternoons a week, and only for a very short while.

#### CLAIMS OF EXCESSIVE DOG FOULING.

Whilst I agree that there is a concern, in every public open space, in Bristol, I do not see mixed use public spaces being fenced off to “protect” the occasional sports event from the occasional dog poo. The claims from Cotham school are wildly exaggerated, and I speak from personal experience, walking my dog regularly for 17 years.

#### 8 TIMES CCTV TOWERS, WITH 3x 360 DEGREE CAMERAS.

I don't know how many hours per week, the school intend to use field on a weekly basis, but the use of 24 X 360 degree cameras to monitor the entire field and surrounding properties 24/7/365 is, quite frankly a preposterous and invasive abuse of Cotham school's very weak argument for wanting to protect school children whilst at Stoke Lodge. This area has one of the lowest crime rates in Bristol, and claims by Cotham School, of widespread vandalism to the fencing, costing thousands of pounds, have been widely debunked. The fencing and cameras are completely unnecessary and I cannot see any reason why the school and the whole community cannot share the space, as they have done for as long as I can remember.

#### CONCERNS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

One of my primary concerns, is the long term plan for the site. It worries me, that this plan is the “thin end of the wedge” and that y to there is s longer term, more sinister agenda, at play. I want to see assurances, from BCC and Cotham School, that the “Permanent” plan for Stoke Lodge, will always be for the benefit of Cotham students, local sports groups( unfettered access) and local residents ( all rights of way respected and open).

As previously indicated, my view comes from a purely pragmatic, community standpoint, I absolutely believe that sensible and respect discussions, would have

resolved this issue, without the futile need for hundreds of thousands of pounds being spent on legal fees. The local community have self funded their legal fees, in wanting to argue against Cotham's plans( rightfully so) Cotham, on the other hand have spent a great portion of their reserves on this egregious plan, in the hope that they will, somewhere, down the line, recoup and make return on this plan.

I want ALL parties to to work in the best interests of all the people who want, and have a right, to use Stoke Lodge.

I believe that the Chair of Governor's of Cotham School should step down, whilst this process is going on. This would defuse, what has become a very polarised situation.

Regards

