

From: [Peter Weeks](#)
To: [Section 62A Applications Non Major](#)
Subject: Ref: S62A/2025/0133 Stoke Lodge Playing Fields, West Dene, Shirehampton, Bristol BS9 2BH
Date: 03 December 2025 15:34:43

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Ref: S62A/2025/0133 Stoke Lodge Playing Fields, West Dene, Shirehampton, Bristol BS9 2BH

I am Peter Weeks. My address is [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] from Stoke Lodge our nearest park and local open space.

I give below my reasons for objecting to this planning application. If a hearing is held I would like to make an oral submission please.

Reasons

1. Use of the parkland The lease says that Cotham School may use the land - quote - "subject to all existing rights and use of the Property, including use by the community". "Existing rights" means the School has a duty to allow people like me, residents, to use it as a park. My wife and I frequently use Stoke Lodge for walks and for recreation with our grand-children. Many other local people make frequent use of Stoke Lodge. Cotham School uses it one or two days a week and only during term-times. When the School does use it for sport it is normally in just the top part of the parkland. There already are CCTV cameras on the white hut at the top of the parkland and on the pavilion near West Dene. I ask why four more CCTV towers and so many more cameras are needed in this top half of the field?
2. Lack of crime The BS9 postcode has one of the lowest crime rates in Bristol. There have been no known instances of abduction, theft, assault or grievous bodily harm on Stoke Lodge for many years. In fact you would be hard put to find a single conviction for a crime on Stoke Lodge! Installing 24 more CCTV cameras for purposes of crime prevention is wholly disproportionate and unnecessary.
3. Damage to amenity Erecting so many towers and installing 24 CCTV cameras would be a massive intrusion on the amenity of a local park. So much surveillance cannot be justified on the grounds of "security". Security against what threats? If permitted these towers and cameras would turn Stoke Lodge into an area like a high-security prison yard. Various public rights of way cross Stoke Lodge. Every movement of every person would be monitored. Why? There is no reason for this. No other park or playing field in Bristol has so many CCTV cameras for "security".
4. Damage to heritage Stoke Lodge is a heritage asset. It was part of the grounds of and is immediately adjacent to Stoke House which is Grade 2 listed. Stoke Lodge is designated as Important Open Space. It would do great damage to the house and the land to erect multiple steel columns around the site. Local heritage is very important and it deserves protection, not wilful damage like this.

CCTV towers and this degree of surveillance are out of keeping with the Local Plan, they do not fit with national policy on planning and would wreck our local park. Please do not grant planning permission.

Regards

Peter Weeks

