



Paul Thompson
Stratford-on-Avon District Council
Elizabeth House
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Stratford-upon-Avon
CV37 6HX

By email only to: Paul.Thompson@stratford-dc.gov.uk

16 January 2023

Dear Paul,

APPLICATION NO: 22/03590/FUL

DESCRIPTION: Erection of a multi-use games area on an area of existing sports pitch

LOCATION: Kitebrook School, Kitebrook, Moreton-in-Marsh, GL56 0RP

The above planning application, which is for a development that would be located within the Cotswolds National Landscape¹, has been brought to the attention of the Cotswolds National Landscape Board².

In reaching its planning decision, the local planning authority (LPA) has a statutory duty to have regard to the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the National Landscape.³ The Board recommends that, in fulfilling this 'duty of regard', the LPA should: (i) ensure that planning decisions are consistent with relevant national and local planning policy and guidance; and (ii) take into account the following Board publications⁴:

- Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan 2018-2023 ([link](#));
- Cotswolds AONB Landscape Character Assessment ([link](#)), particularly, in this instance, with regards to the 'key features / characteristics' of Landscape Character Type (LCT) 17 (Pastoral Lowland Vale);
- Cotswolds AONB Landscape Strategy and Guidelines ([link](#)), particularly, in this instance, with regards to LCT 17 ([link](#)), including Section 17.2;
- Cotswolds Conservation Board Position Statements ([link](#)), particularly, in this instance, with regards to the:
 - Dark Skies and Artificial Light Position Statement ([link](#)) and its appendices ([link 1](#), [link 2](#), [link 3](#)).

Having reviewed the application, the Board **does not object** to this application. We note that this application seeks permission to erect a MUGA and associated perimeter fencing on land within the school grounds which has been, and is currently, used for sports pitches, is well related to the present buildings and other playing pitches on site and is relatively well screened from the A44 and public rights of way. We also note that floodlighting is not proposed for the MUGA in a direct response to pre-application feedback from the Council. Indeed, the Board had also previously objected to applications at Kitebrook which involved expansion of the school site beyond its current limits and use of floodlighting (WODC ref. 21/01456/FUL).

Cotswolds Conservation Board

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The Cotswolds National Landscape is a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), managed and looked after by the Cotswolds Conservation Board.

cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

Chairman:
Brendan McCarthy

Vice Chair:
Rebecca Charley

Accordingly, and without prejudice, should the Council be minded to grant planning permission, we would support the imposition of an appropriately-worded condition to prevent floodlighting being added in the future in the interest of the conservation and enhancement of the dark skies of the Cotswolds National Landscape.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss this response further.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Joyce', with a small dot at the end.

Simon Joyce

Planning Officer

simon.joyce@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk | 07808 391227

NOTES:

- 1) Cotswolds National Landscape is the new name for the Cotswolds Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The new name takes forward one of the proposals of the Government-commissioned 'Landscapes Review' to rename AONBs as 'National Landscapes'. This change reflects the national importance of AONBs and the fact that they are safeguarded, in the national interest, for nature, people, business and culture.
- 2) The name used for the organisation associated with the AONB designation is the Cotswolds National Landscape Board. At times this is abbreviated to National Landscape Board or The Board. The legal name of the organisation remains the Cotswolds Conservation Board but this name is no longer used in most circumstances.
- 3) Section 85 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/37/section/85
- 4) The documents referred to in our response can be located on the Cotswolds National Landscape website under the following sections
 - a. Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan 2018-2023
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/management-plan
 - b. Cotswolds AONB Landscape Character Assessment
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/lca
 - c. Cotswolds AONB Landscape Strategy and Guidelines
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/lsg
 - d. Cotswolds AONB Local Distinctiveness and Landscape Change
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/ldlc
 - e. Cotswolds Conservation Board Position Statements
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/ps1
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/ps2