

**DESIGN ACCESS STATEMENT  
PROPOSED NEW ARTIFICIAL GRASS 3G PITCH**



**Design and Access Statement**

**Site:** LLANTARNAM COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL  
PROPOSED 3G PITCH



**Proposed New Artificial Grass 3G Pitch**

**Introduction**

The Design and Access Statement is submitted in support of a full planning application for a proposed new Artificial Grass Pitch (3G) cited on the Llantarnam playing fields. Additional works will include the provision of floodlighting, fencing, landscaping pitch drainage, car parking and vehicular and pedestrian roadways and paths. The statement sets out detailed design and access considerations relating to the proposed development and demonstrates conformity to planning policy regarding design and access. The DAS to be read in conjunction with all the supporting application documents.

**Site Description**

The proposed Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP, 3G) will be located within the existing sports fields, currently laid to short grass for the playing of football and rugby. These existing pitches are in effect redundant due to the poor drainage within the area. The new pitch will occupy a prepared plateau, at a level dictated by a new SUDS drainage system to cope with the new facility. The sports field and infrastructure works will cover a large area of approximately 60% of the 3ha site which is bordered by residential housing to the North, Llantarnam Community Primary School to the East, wooded and open grassland to the West and Industrial development to the South. Numerous trees of varying sizes lie along the West, South and East boundaries. The playing fields are accessed via a gate within the confines of the aforementioned school which in turn is served by a relatively new road, James Prosser Way, built as part of a new housing estate. The playing fields land is of gentle gradient across the site from the West to East. There are numerous other points of access, namely Court Farm Road for both maintenance vehicles and pedestrians who use this area as a general amenity area, i.e. Dog walking. The citing of the facilities just off Llantarnam Road allows for easy access to major roads (A4042) and from the surrounding Cwmbran area, further afield to Newport to the South and Pontypool to the North with South Wales Valley Towns and Cardiff being within 45-minute travel distance.

**Proposed Development Use**

The Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) is intended to be a part of ongoing improvements to the Llantarnam Community Primary School, together with providing additional facilities to the wider community. The development proposes the replacement of the sub-standard natural turf unused pitches. This planning application is for the proposed construction of an artificial grass pitch which will allow football and rugby training and games to be played throughout the season, by the school and external organizations.

**Liaison with Professional Bodies**

The development is part of improvements in the facilities on the Llantarnam Community Primary School site. Discussions have taken place internally within TCBC, including the Planning, Engineering and Sports Departments (FIT Wales) and external consultants, Civil Engineers, Flood Risk Consultants, Landscape Architects, Floodlighting specialists, culminating in the current layout for the proposed facilities and pitch layout.

**Improvement of the pitch areas.**

Pitches for football and rugby are to be laid out on the overall footprint of 112m x 78m 3G area. Floodlighting and associated fencing will be provided to enhance same.

**Layout and Appearance**

The proposed development comprises 3G Football / Rugby AGP 3G pitch with run off areas, bordered by 5m and 8m high perimeter sports fencing; spectator barriers, external perimeter paved paths and sports lighting. The construction process comprises preparing the existing ground to provide the correct pitch falls. A constructed hard-core base; a designed SUDS drainage system, a shock pad layer; finished in a synthetic long pile carpet with filler material to absorb fall shocks and support the artificial grass. The pitch requires a run off areas in the same construction to the fencing. This extends to a perimeter fence. In this case constructed of a coloured protective coated steel mesh supported on steel posts. Civil Engineering design will include roadway, footpath and parking infrastructure works. A designated area, approximately 23m x 11.5m is to be allocated for a future changing facility building, but this will be subject to future design and a separate planning application.

**Lighting.**

The lighting documents will detail light spill for lighting designs. The construction incorporates common location of relatively high lighting columns and lamping to meet the FA sized pitch light level compliance and adjustment of the lighting fittings will meet RFU sized pitch compliance.

The light is designed to provide a lower lux level for training purposes; a higher level of lux for matches in accordance with the design requirements of the professional bodies. The horizontal luminance standard is for club sports.

Facilities Compliance:

Facilities Guidance Note 4: Floodlighting by Rugby Football Foundation

Match lighting 200lux training 100lux

The FA Guide to Floodlighting

Match Lighting 200lux and training 120lux

The design of which is designed to meet Institute of Lighting Professionals - Guidance Notes for the Reduction of Obtrusive Light - GN01.

### **Landscape:**

The appearance of the development is one visually in keeping with the intended use, i.e. it should appear as a sports facility on a sports playing field site. Screening to adjacent residential housing will be via a landscaped designed scheme which will take into consideration privacy to local inhabitants

Local remaining amenities are to be enhanced by developing a landscape scheme being sympathetic to SUDS drainage design, ecological and environmental considerations.

### **Use of the Sports Facilities**

It is the intention that the facilities will be run by TCBC Local Authority in association with Llantarnam Community Primary School

The improved facilities will attract better use of the playing field site and the Artificial Grass Pitch will allow matches and training to take place throughout the year and in times of poor weather when grass pitches would be otherwise unusable.

### **Time of use.**

See Hours of Use Statement.

The usage of in particular sports lighting is limited to a curfew time. T.B.C, each day. The facilities are available for use for training or sports Monday to Sunday.

### **Access & Parking**

Parking will be available in the proposed new associated car park for approximately X vehicles. Access to the 3G will be via the existing infrastructure already in place serving Llantarnam Community Primary School, modifications to suite are intended.

### **Public Consultation**

A public consultation will be organized upon commencement of the planning process.

### **Scale**

See drawings.

The area of the 3G and infrastructure works covers a total area of approximately 1.75 ha.

The height of the fencing will be 5m and 8m and the height of the lighting is in the region of 18m high, (TBC) lighting columns.

### **Drainage**

The 3G and associated infrastructure drainage is anticipated to comprise a designed SUDS system.

The completed design will be constructed as part of the contractors' works.

### **DDA**

The new facilities will be designed to meet the Building Regulations Part M and are compliant with: Sports Ground Wales Design Guidance Notes for Accessible Sports Facilities.

### **Environmental Considerations**

Visual - The 3G is sited in an area where it will be partly screened by a design to be advised by the Landscape Architect

An Ecology Report is to accompany this Planning Application

A Habitat Survey is to accompany this Planning Application

A Bat survey is to accompany this Planning Application

A Floodlighting light spill scheme is to accompany this Planning Application

### **Planning Considerations.**

Planning history.

Previous Planning permissions relative to this site are to be confirmed by TCBC Planning Department.

### **Conclusion**

The application proposes a new construction of an artificial grass pitch and associated works for the use by schools, clubs, the community, for adults, and children on the site of the existing grassed amenity pitches and within the grounds of Llantarnam Community Primary School.

The design is compliant with the design guidance for the professional bodies the FAW and the RFU.

Access to the facility will be via the existing school entrance and car park, including connection to future proposed changing facilities. Modification within the existing school site will mean separation and safety for vehicular and pedestrian users of both the existing and proposed facilities. The development maintains the current use and need of the site as a school and community facility and allows year-round use of the Playing Fields. The new Lighting will comply with the requirements of GN01 and will meet the light restriction requirements at the boundary to the SSSI.

As part of the development of the playing fields and new pitch configuration improvement works will be agreed with FIT Wales and other professional bodies.