

GREEN BELT POLICY STATEMENT

Replacement Sports Pavilion, on behalf of Snitterfield Parish Council and Cricket Club

The site outlined in these proposals currently lies within the West Midlands Greenbelt, in the village of Snitterfield.

The site in its wider context accommodates sports pitches, extensive children's play equipment, a dilapidated Sports Pavilion and car parking. The pavilion has changing rooms, kitchen & toilet facilities and communal space.

The Pavilion and its environs also plays a part in the annual village fete and various other activities.

The proposal for the site is to replace the existing Pavilion with a new Pavilion that is fit for purpose and to encourage ancillary uses to make the building more viable.

PLANNING POLICY

There are specific policies to protect the Green Belt, and these have been carefully considered. The NPPF states;

149. A local planning authority should regard the construction of new buildings as inappropriate in the Green Belt. Exceptions to this are:

A range of uses are listed within para 149 that identify uses that are not inappropriate.

Specifically, subsection B provides confirmation that Facilities for outdoor sport are allowed as an exception.

- b) the provision of appropriate facilities (in connection with the existing use of land or a change of use) for outdoor sport, outdoor recreation, cemeteries and burial grounds and allotments; as long as the facilities preserve the openness of the Green Belt and do not conflict with the purposes of including land within it;

Furthermore, it is not inappropriate to alter or extend a building. Subsection C provides a fallback position.

The proposals are seen to be proportionate to the existing building.

- c) the extension or alteration of a building provided that it does not result in disproportionate additions over and above the size of the original building;

The Proposals are therefore appropriate despite the Green Belt location.

Written by

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