

# Didcot Town Council

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2<sup>nd</sup> August 2021

FAO:

Bob Sharples Esq  
Sport England

Ref: P21/S2646/FUL Edmonds Park  
Didcot  
CC: N Bamsey Esq  
South Oxfordshire Planning Department



Dear Bob and Nathaniel

In response to the comments from Sport England, I would like to make the following comments on behalf of Didcot Town Council - DTC.

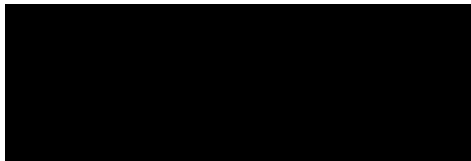
1. **Plans showing the existing and proposed pitch layouts in relation to the new building.** I attach the current pitches used by Didcot Town Football Club. Edmonds Park is a large green space and there is the ability to change the layout of pitches depending on the teams that are playing for each season. It is not the intention of the Town Council to interfere or reduce the current football provision at Edmonds Park. If anything this building will enhance the overall leisure options and pave the way to a potential 3G or 5G pitch on the wetter areas of the park.
2. **Justification for one set of changing rooms.** Like many Town Councils – DTC has lost nearly all its normal revenue due to the pandemic last year – so cost is a factor. However the intention of the Town Council is that this building was always going to provide more than just changing rooms for the football club. It is important that the building is used throughout the week and not just at weekends for matches. To ensure it will be used, the pavilion needs to be a community building. This is a significant improvement on the current changing facilities which are in temporary facilities whilst we demolish the old pavilion. The building has been designed to allow for additional facilities to be added at a later stage as desired.
3. **Environmental sustainability measures including electric bikes and car charging points.** DTC has declared a climate emergency and is actively gathering quotes for solar energy for all DTC buildings. This will include the new Outside Services Depot at Edmonds Park. The energy gathered at this building will help us power our first electric vehicle currently on order and some of our electric hand tools currently being trialled. The new Pavilion will feature EV charging points alongside all other DTC buildings.
4. **Accessible changing room will double up as an official's changing room.** Minute 4 e Environment Committee meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2020: *"Provide a good disabled toilet/changing area suitable for changing disabled adults – this could also*

*be the referee's room on match days (locker provided so can still be used as a disabled toilet when matches are on etc)"*

5. **CCTV** – we already have CCTV at the Didcot Civic Hall and we are discussing cameras at Edmonds Park. It will be essential to protect the building with CCTV but the Councillors are also keen to cover the rest of the park as long as child safeguarding will allow.
6. In addition we are currently looking at the appointment of a **BREEAM consultant**.

Please see the sample pitch layouts attached and I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards



**Mrs Janet Wheeler**  
**Town Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer**

Encs: Edmonds Park current pitch layout

# EDMUNDS PARK, DIDCOT

