



Abbey Grange Church of England High School, Humanities College  
Butcher Hill  
Leeds  
LS16 5EA  
Tel: 0113 275 7877  
Fax: 0113 275 4794  
Website: [www.abbeygrangeschool.co.uk](http://www.abbeygrangeschool.co.uk)  
Email: [info@abbeygrange.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:info@abbeygrange.leeds.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mr Alan Key, BA (Hons) MEd



**Consultation on the development of all weather sports facilities at  
Abbey Grange Church of England High School, Humanities College.**

18<sup>th</sup> February 2008

Councillor John Illingworth  
37 Kirkwood Way  
LEEDS  
LS16 7EU

Dear Councillor Illingworth

We are launching a consultation process under section 77 of the School Standards and Framework Act on a proposal to upgrade the facilities on our school playing fields and I am therefore writing to you in your capacity as a local councillor for the ward in which the school is situated.

The school has for many years looked for ways to improve our playing fields and, in particular, to replace the outdated "redgras" floodlit all-weather surface with a more modern facility for school use and also the wider community. Many months ago the school was put into contact with a company called Powerleague by the Ripon and Leeds Diocesan authorities. Powerleague is a national company which seeks to develop all-weather sports facilities on school playing field sites and which has developed 12 of their current 38 sites in partnership with local schools. The partnership between the school and Powerleague would mean that the school would have exclusive use of the facilities from 8.25am – 4.00pm during term time. Between 4.00pm and 6.00 pm the pitches would be available for discounted community use to local supervised groups under 16 and informally to local youngsters who register with Powerleague's after-school clubs scheme. After 4.00 pm and at weekends Powerleague will then use the facilities for their own operations.

Many months of discussions and negotiations have brought us to the point where we wish to move forward on the following development:

- Full size floodlit all weather hockey pitch (105 x 55 metres)
- Ten floodlit all weather soccer pitches (20 x 30 metres)
- Two floodlit seven-a-side pitches (40 x 30 metres), one with an all-weather surface suitable for soccer and also rugby training and one for soccer and hockey skills training
- A grass football pitch measuring approximately 85 x 50 metres
- A 350 square metre single storey sports pavilion with bar facilities\*
- A car park (168 spaces) and new access road off Butcher Hill
- CCTV and time lapse video surveillance of the site, including the car park

(\* only available in conjunction with hiring and NEVER during term time day time hours or school use)

We believe that the provision of these facilities would be a major step forward not only for the school in terms of its ability to deliver the PE curriculum, but also for clubs etc who currently hire our outdated and inadequate facilities and for the wider community in general. Also, parking will be provided on site which will help to minimize parking on Butcher Hill by hirers rather than street parking at present.

## CONSULTATION PROCESS

This letter marks the start of the formal section 77 consultation process although informal preliminary discussions have already taken place with representatives from local residents' associations and other interested parties. This consultation process will last ten school weeks from February 18<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> May. Please note that this is in addition to and completely separate from any consultation process linked to the planning application. During this ten week period, I (or another member of my senior staff) will be available in school each Monday from 10.00am – 11.00 am and each Thursday from 3.00pm – 4.00 pm (except 20<sup>th</sup> March which is a training day) to discuss these proposals. We will also have a display of the proposed development available in school at those times as well as further written information. We would also be very happy to receive written responses. This can be done either by writing to me at the school address or by e-mail on [info@abbeygrange.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:info@abbeygrange.leeds.sch.uk)

Yours sincerely



Alan Key  
Headteacher