

Spen Hill residents
West Park
Leeds
LS16 5EY

18th April 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

Ref: Power League, Butcher Hill playing fields

Anne Wilson is saying that this project is a state of the art must have sports facility for the school. We ask you to please see through this, as this is not a state of the art complex it consists of a few plastic playing surfaces surrounded by mesh cages, which are extremely limited as to their use and please consider these points.

- 1 The car park for 168 cars

The school already has a massive car park and does not need any more car parking spaces.

- 2 The large bar with small changing rooms virtually none for the girls.

We have heard from a number of people that the school already has excellent changing room facilities and does not intend to use the Power league ones.

- 3 12 small caged football pitches.

The school does not need this amount of football pitches it averages about 1.5 hours per day on the fields and this is not every day and we already have a grass 5 a side pitch on the council owned part of this land.

- 4 Soccer and rugby and athletics.

The school will loose its only full size soccer pitch and full size rugby pitch and long jump facilitates due to building this project.

- 5 Differences for the children (who are supposed to be the main issue here).

The only difference there will be is they will be playing on a plastic pitch that will slowly degrade over its 25 year life, rather than a natural grass pitch that is renewed from month to month by the cutting processes. How can this be an improvement?

6 Use of the land

The land is used for far more activities than it will be usable for with a Power league stood on it. Activities including, soccer, cricket, rugby, athletics, running, walking, general children's play activities , radio model clubs, organized picnics, bird watching and school nature projects, (there are protected species around this land).

Power league would exclude the greater variety of people especially from the local area. The school and Power league are only after the money that they can make at every one else's expense.

Power league facilities belong in a semi industrial area like the council version is at South Leeds and we already have number 5 side football facilities, within 5 minutes of this area.

Please note that Abbey Grange already play hockey on their artificial tennis surfaces within the school boundary and have plenty of space to build other artificial within this boundary without affecting the green belt pitches in question.

Yours sincerely

Spenn Hill residents Association, working with Moor Grange Action group,
Spenn Lane residents group and West Park residents group.