

## Appendix 4

Rachel Garrard & Terence Montgomery  
36 Thornton Close  
Girton

Members of the Planning Committee  
South Cambridgeshire District Council

3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017

Dear Members,

**RE: HOWES CLOSE SPORTS GROUND (S/2084/16/FL) - SUBMISSION OF AN INDEPENDENT NOISE REPORT**

We are disappointed that once again we have to object to the proposed intensification of use of the Howes Close Sports Ground, and the noise nuisance that it will cause.

When the football pitches were used (which has not been the case since June 2014), we were disturbed by the noise from football matches, but thankfully only for a few hours per week during university term time. This noise impact was never acceptable to us - we tolerated it because it affected us for just a few days a year. We were startled by players and supporters shouting and using foul language which stopped us from using our garden, and prevented our children from sleeping with the windows open on summer evenings.

With the intensification of use that this development will enable, we anticipate being subjected to noise every weekday until 9:30pm, which is too late for young children trying to sleep. The sound of car doors slamming and players calling to each other in the car park is likely to extend well beyond this time.

The noise report supplied by Anglia Ruskin:

- applies the BS8233 standard inappropriately.
- models sports' noise as a point source, which is unrealistic.
- does not address the impact of noise at the first floor level, since measurements were modelled at 1.5m and the proposed acoustic fence will provide no noise reduction for upstairs windows.
- does not consider the noise from all four pitches in use at the same time.

Once again, a number of residents of Thornton Close considered it necessary to commission an independent noise report (attached). The report supports our concerns, and what is more has found a '*... serious discrepancy in the impact assessment due to overestimation of the worst case background noise and underestimation of the sports noise at the [Thornton Close] properties ...*'

We urge you to consider the independent noise report when determining the outcome of this application.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Garrard & Terence Montgomery