

I wish to make the following comments on the above document regarding the playing fields located next to Barrowford referred to as land PO83 and P111

This land is allocated under the Nelson and Colne Neighbourhood Plan as a Protected Sport and Recreation facility, under policy CNDP10 (CNDP0/8).

This land contain 3 9x9 youth football pitches

The assessment makes no mention to the regular use of this land for youth football matches and training sessions

Also is should be noted that both these sites are subject to an S106 agreement, with clear obligations for Nelson and Colne college regarding maintenance which they continue to renege on.

Regarding the comments that the "costing more to maintain than gaining income" is true as the pitches in Pendle are free to use. However the college have seemed to overlook the point that the S106 was their obligations in order for them to receive planning permission on 30 new executive houses on Grenfell Gardens as well as the conversion of the old college into apartments. Therefore the college have to accept that their commitments under the S106 need to be offset verse the sale of the land and buildings. The College are therefore still in a significant profit!!

The College still continues to obstruct the agreed maintenance of these sites under the S106, examples as follows

1. Instruction given to Council Park Dept not to maintain Pitch 3 (P083), this was overturned after lobbying from the Barrowford Road Playing Fields Group.
2. Instruction to Council Park Dept to stop cutting the grass around the pitches, this restricting the drainage and causing the pitches to deteriorate. College have refused to withdraw this instruction.

The pitches have been refered to as poor quality but this isn't correct as they have improved significantly in last few years but could be further enhanced by the council enforcing the covenants in the S106 with the College.

The Barrowford Road Playing Field Group are willing to work the college and council to maximise the usage for sports but the college has refused to engage.

Regards

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