

Lighting Statement: Chapmans Green

Introduction

The Chapmans Green Courts upgrade project is being delivered by Haringey Council to increase public tennis playing provision. The overall aim of the project is to increase the opportunity for local people to participate in tennis and thereby contribute to improvements in activity levels and the health and wellbeing of residents.

This Lighting Statement supports the application from Haringey Council for the transformation of an area that is currently in poor condition. The project will deliver 2 revamped full sized adult courts that are floodlit.

The planned lights for the two tennis courts will transform the playing experience for local people; allowing them to access the courts in the evenings during the winter period. For children accessing the very popular tennis coaching sessions, in the early evening, this is particularly beneficial to ensure continuity of the learning experience. In the later part of the evening adults will be able to access the courts for coaching and to play tennis casually.

Trees and Ecology:

The lighting design is sensitive to the ecology and bio diversity of the site as well as mitigating successfully any potential impacts on nearby residents.

- An Ecological Survey has been carried out that demonstrates low impact on local wildlife.
- The Council's Tree Section has been engaged to check all the plans including the ducting. There are no adverse impacts on nearby trees. A small amount of clearance maybe required and is authorised by the Tree Section.

The Site: Chapmans Green

Chapmans Green sits at the apex of Perth Road and Lordship Lane approximately 0.5 kilometres from Wood Green High Street. References to Chapmans Green date back as far as 1619 when it was originally a common. Little has changed since it received park status in the early 1900s.

The park is small in size, but much loved with the formal gardens keeping their shape and now more sustainably planted. The park also boasts a pavilion, and the old bowls green has lately become the site of a volunteer led sustainable gardening project. The tennis courts sit to the rear of the old bowls green with access from Perth Road and Lordship Lane.

The park was awarded the Green Flag quality award in 2006 and has retained it ever since. There is an active Friends Group involved with the Park.

The Tennis Courts at Chapmans Green

The tennis courts are somewhat under utilised but with this project to refurbish the playing surface, install lighting and other improvements to accessibility will encourage more intensive tennis use. Activation activity around children's coaching sessions and fun tennis experiences for adults and children alike will drive positive use of the area, and work to minimise the anti-social behaviour that the park sometimes experiences.

Engagement

An engagement exercise regarding the tennis court upgrades and lighting took place on the 'Commonplace Website' from 16th January 2023 to 20th February 2023. The Engagement Exercise was widely publicised including sending emails to all the tennis court bookers. Of the 27 responses 26 responses said they were positive towards the lighting e.g.

'I think it will be excellent to allow more people to use the tennis courts and floodlights and more people using the courts will help discourage the drug dealing/anti social behaviour which appears to go on behind the tennis courts at present, and make the courts playable for longer.'

The one negative response mentioned impacts on local residents:

'Floodlighting may effect local residence who are located close to the courts.'

And a couple of others, while overall positive, commented on other items they would like to see in the park e.g.

'Please provide safe bicycle storage (making sure it's well lit for the evening hours). Let's encourage people to cycle to the courts! I'd also like to recommend planting lots of wildflowers and foliage around the courts.'

Hours of Opening

The park is accessible at all times as it is not locked at night. Effectively this means the park is primarily utilised from dawn to dusk.

The proposed hours of operation for the lights are:

Monday to Sunday: dusk to 9pm.

These operating hours for the lights will ensure that the tennis coaching programmes can continue during the winter months (approximately 16 hours per week) and that a minimum of 35 hours of additional court time is made available for casual play and play. Shutting the lights down at 9pm will minimise any potential impacts on local residents.

ANDREA KEEBLE – HARINGEY COUNCIL

DATED : 23.03.2023