

To: Development Control South

From: Leanne Poole

Deputy Clerk

Date: 21st April 2026

SPC comments regarding Grammar School Planning Application

DC/26/0322 – Steyning Grammar School - Part-demolition of existing teaching buildings, MUGAs and all-weather pitch. Construction of replacement 2-storey and 3-storey teaching buildings, flood-lit all-weather pitch and hard surfaced sports courts, with associated access, parking, landscaping and infrastructure.

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Objection – Steyning Parish Council {SPC} remain concerned about the loss of sports amenity, namely the AstroTurf pitch, and also the apparent divergence in terms of proposed future community use management between the School and the adjacent Sports Centre, which remove the use of sports hall amenity from the sports centres control and places it under School lettings which may well render the sports centre a non-viable commercial operation leading to the further loss of amenity in the future – namely the swimming pool.

Cllr Bell **proposed, seconded** by Cllr Hanson that an astroturf or equivalent pitch be incorporated into the existing development plans (using part of the existing and extensive grass playing area, even if the installation is initially unfunded, and whilst SPC pursues potential match funding options through Sport England), and that SPC be part of the conversation concerning the Community Use Agreement to ensure Access and Security measures be revisited before signing off on the final plans. **Agreed**

Cllr Bell **proposed, seconded** by Cllr Simon Alexander that West Sussex County Council explore options for the reprofiling of the road layout adjacent the new main school access on Horsham Road to improve pedestrian safety (as there will be considerably more pupils using a very narrow pathway next to a very busy road), and to consider moving the current Bus Stops to again deal with safety concerns. With consideration of traffic management measures where appropriate. Engagement with the highway authority engineers and the school being required at the earliest opportunity. **Agreed**