

Democratic Services

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Ask for:

Charles Yankiah

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Date: My ref: 11 November 2022 CY/H&RAC/OCT2022

Your ref:

Mr Peter Appleby 29 Kingston Grove Stockport SK4 4SF

Dear Mr Appleby,

I refer to your public question that you submitted to the October 2022 meeting of the Heatons and Reddish Area Committee relating to the "Astro Turf Pitch adjacent to St Thomas School & Heaton Manor Estate".

I have now been advised that: -

I will need a little more time to respond to the second question regarding the protection of the greenspace. I am currently reviewing the response with planning policy regarding the other questions raised please see below.

1. Is it the intention to remove the tarmac path which surrounds the astro turf pitch prior to seeding with grass?

The intention is to retain the existing tarmac path.

2. As this will become a popular walking and dog walking area on completion will additional waste and dog waste bins be installed and emptied regularly?

An additional bin (mixed waste) will be provided at this site and serviced twice weekly.

3. Is there funding for ongoing maintenance such as grass mowing once refurbishment is complete?

There is no additional funds for maintenance. The additional maintenance works will be absorbed into the existing maintenance schedule.

4. Will access to the site be improved, in particular creating an opening via the dropped curb into Harrow Drive thereby increasing links to existing foot and cycle paths?

There is no intention to create an entrance from Harrow Drive at this time.

5. Will the Council be applying for additional tree planting grants from the Woodland Trust and other conservation groups?

There is no intention of applying for tree whips from any of the mentioned bodies as these small trees are not appropriate for the site. The site will be reviewed for new specimen trees to be planted in 2025 as part of the boroughwide Climate Action Now objectives.

6. Has St Thomas School been contacted to discuss extending the forest school onto the site?

The Neighbourhoods Team would be open to working St Thomas School should they wish to run forest school activities in the greenspace.

If you have any further queries in relation to this matter, please contact Richard Booker, Play & Infrastructure Officer at richard.booker@stockport.gov.uk

On behalf of the Area Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for taking the time to contribute to the discussion on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Charles Yankiah

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CSS Manager (Legal & Democratic Services)