

Our reference: COM514217858

Application number: 2023/0866

Application address: St Georges Hill Lawn Tennis Club, Warreners Lane, Weybridge, KT13 0LL

Name: Mr Stephens

Address: Flat 6 Birchwood Court Birchwood Drive West Byfleet KT146FB

Comment type: You support the planning application

Date of comment: 09 May 2023

Comment: As a racquets club, the proposed development is not only consistent with the evolution of St George's Hill Lawn Tennis Club but essential to it.

Padel is the fastest growing racquet sport and attracts players from other disciplines, including a younger cohort of players which will be key to the club's long term viability and success. The padel facility will utilise ground year-round which, at best, is currently used for a maximum of 3-4 months each year.

The site, structure and design of the padel courts ensures that noise will be fully contained and - at worst - diversified away by play on surrounding tennis courts. Additionally, the location of the new padel facility is discreet and not overlooking of, nor overlooked by, any neighbouring properties. The club is essential and additive to the utility and aesthetic attributes of the St George's Hill Estate. It pre-dates most of the existing properties on the Estate and must be allowed to develop in a way that is alive and sensitive to its neighbours, and the Estate more generally, which this proposal does completely.

The potential noise impact upon the neighbouring residents from the proposed new Padel courts has been assessed. This has been carried out by comparing predicted Padel Court match noise levels to the existing prevailing noise levels at the nearest residential properties, taking into account both the character of the noise as well as the highest worst-case predicted noise levels.

Taking into account the noise mitigation provided by the proposed acoustic screens, the Padel court match noise is not anticipated to result in any adverse noise impact on the local residents and would be within the Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level (LOAEL).

The assessment findings demonstrate that the proposals for the Padel courts, along with the acoustic screens, satisfy paragraphs 174 and 185 of the NPPF (2021), the first and second aims of the NPSE (2010) and Policy DM5: Pollution of the Elmbridge Local Plan (2015) with respect to noise.