Thank you for consulting Sport England on the above neighbourhood plan.

Government planning policy, within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), identifies how the planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities. Encouraging communities to become more physically active through walking, cycling, informal recreation and formal sport plays an important part in this process. Providing enough sports facilities of the right quality and type in the right places is vital to achieving this aim. This means that positive planning for sport, protection from the unnecessary loss of sports facilities, along with an integrated approach to providing new housing and employment land with community facilities is important.

It is essential therefore that the neighbourhood plan reflects and complies with national planning policy for sport as set out in the NPPF with particular reference to Pars 96 and 97. It is also important to be aware of Sport England’s statutory consultee role in protecting playing fields and the presumption against the loss of playing field land. Sport England’s playing fields policy is set out in our Playing Fields Policy and Guidance document.

http://www.sportengland.org/playingfieldspolicy

Sport England provides guidance on developing planning policy for sport and further information can be found via the link below. Vital to the development and implementation of planning policy is the evidence base on which it is founded.

http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/planning-for-sport/forward-planning/

Sport England works with local authorities to ensure their Local Plan is underpinned by robust and up to date evidence. In line with Par 97 of the NPPF, this takes the form of assessments of need and strategies for indoor and outdoor sports facilities. A neighbourhood planning body should look to see if the relevant local authority has prepared a playing pitch strategy or other indoor/outdoor sports facility strategy. If it has then this could provide useful evidence for the neighbourhood plan and save the neighbourhood planning body time and resources gathering their own evidence. It is important that a neighbourhood plan reflects the recommendations and actions set out in any such strategies, including those which may specifically relate to the neighbourhood area, and that any local investment opportunities, such as the Community Infrastructure Levy, are utilised to support their delivery.

Where such evidence does not already exist then relevant planning policies in a neighbourhood plan should be based on a proportionate assessment of the need for sporting provision in its area. Developed in consultation with the local sporting and wider community any assessment should be used to provide key recommendations and deliverable actions. These should set out what provision is required to ensure the current and future needs of the community for sport can be met and, in turn, be able to support the development and implementation of planning policies. Sport England’s guidance on assessing needs may help with such work.

http://www.sportengland.org/planningtoolsandguidance

If new or improved sports facilities are proposed Sport England recommend you ensure they are fit for purpose and designed in accordance with our design guidance
Any new housing developments will generate additional demand for sport. If existing sports facilities do not have the capacity to absorb the additional demand, then planning policies should look to ensure that new sports facilities, or improvements to existing sports facilities, are secured and delivered. Proposed actions to meet the demand should accord with any approved local plan or neighbourhood plan policy for social infrastructure, along with priorities resulting from any assessment of need, or set out in any playing pitch or other indoor and/or outdoor sports facility strategy that the local authority has in place.

In line with the Government’s NPPF (including Section 8) and its Planning Practice Guidance (Health and wellbeing section), links below, consideration should also be given to how any new development, especially for new housing, will provide opportunities for people to lead healthy lifestyles and create healthy communities. Sport England’s Active Design guidance can be used to help with this when developing planning policies and developing or assessing individual proposals.

Active Design, which includes a model planning policy, provides ten principles to help ensure the design and layout of development encourages and promotes participation in sport and physical activity. The guidance, and its accompanying checklist, could also be used at the evidence gathering stage of developing a neighbourhood plan to help undertake an assessment of how the design and layout of the area currently enables people to lead active lifestyles and what could be improved.

NPPF Section 8: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework/8-promoting-healthy-communities

PPG Health and wellbeing section: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/health-and-wellbeing

Sport England’s Active Design Guidance: https://www.sportengland.org/activedesign

(Please note: this response relates to Sport England’s planning function only. It is not associated with our funding role or any grant application/award that may relate to the site.)

If you need any further advice, please do not hesitate to contact Sport England using the contact details below.

Yours sincerely,

Planning Admin Team

T:
E:

This girl can

Sport Park, 3 Oakwood Drive, Loughborough, Leicester, LE11 3QF
Dear Consultee,

CONSULTATION ON THE BURSCOUGH PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN SUBMISSION VERSION

West Lancashire Borough Council are undertaking public consultation on the Burscough Parish Neighbourhood Plan Submission Version during which time comments are invited upon the content of the plan and the evidence base which has been used to inform the preparation of it.

The neighbourhood plan has been prepared by Burscough Parish Council in consultation with the local community and has now been passed to West Lancashire Borough Council as the responsible body to take forward to completion (called being 'made') in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations. Once 'made' it would then be used to determine planning applications in the Burscough parish area alongside the West Lancashire Local Plan and other local and national planning policies.

The neighbourhood plan contains a vision, objectives and policies for the Burscough parish area, covering a time period to 2027. It will shape what development takes place in the future and where, what new buildings will be expected to look like, what new infrastructure may be needed and which sites, such as open spaces, should be protected.

Consultation Period
The consultation period in which you can submit your comments to the Borough Council will run between Wednesday 9 January and Wednesday 20 February 2019. Within this 6 week period you will be able to comment on the Burscough Parish Neighbourhood Plan Submission Version proposals and view copies of the relevant documents, including evidence base.

Following the close of public consultation Borough Council officers will collate the responses received and are required to send them, along with the Submission Neighbourhood Plan and supporting evidence, to an independent examiner who will consider if the plan is satisfactory.
Find out more
If you wish to view the Burscough Parish Neighbourhood Plan Submission Version, and all the supporting information and evidence you can visit the Council's website:

www.westlancs.gov.uk/np
(if this link does not work please copy and paste into your internet browser)

or alternatively you could visit one of the following locations where a paper version of the documentation will be available:

- Martland Mill, Mart Lane, Burscough;
- Burscough library, Mill Lane;
- The Grove Community Centre, Station Approach, Burscough; and
- West Lancashire Borough Council offices, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk.

Further details of the stages of preparation of a neighbourhood plan, including what the Parish Council has done previously, can be found using the above link to the Council's website.

Submitting your comments
If you wish to submit your comments on the Local Plan Review Preferred Options please do so in writing between Wednesday 9 January and Wednesday 20 February 2019. The quickest and easiest way is online at www.westlancs.gov.uk/np. Alternatively, you can complete a comments proforma (available online or from the above venues), and return it to Local Plan Team, West Lancashire Borough Council, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, L39 2DF or at email localplan@westlancs.gov.uk

If you require any further information, please telephone [contact information] to speak to a Borough Council officer or email localplan@westlancs.gov.uk

Kind regards

______________________________
West Lancashire Borough Council
52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, L39 2DF

www.westlancs.gov.uk
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