

GLASGOW COUNCIL

Design and Access Statement for Padel at Lethamhill Golf Centre

1. Introduction

This design and access statement has been submitted in support of the planning application for the proposed canopy covered outdoor padel tennis courts at Lethamhill Golf Centre. The application is for three padel tennis courts with a canopy next to the proposed family golf centre. The proposal seeks to locate the new courts close to the Hub buildings around the golf centre. This is to enable the Hub to support the development of an additional new racquet sport at the centre. It will increase the overall leisure opportunities on offer for the local community. The proposal is functional in scale and type and is designed to sit within the built area leaving the rest of the site as open recreational space.

Padel

Padel is commonly described as the fastest growing sport in the world and increasingly being called the fastest growing sport in the UK. Padel is a discipline of tennis and was recently recognised by **sportscotland** and supported by Tennis Scotland. The sport is governed by the LTA and is developing rapidly and growing in popularity across the UK. Padel is easy to learn and popular with women and men and played by people of all ages and abilities. It contributes to a healthy lifestyle and is very sociable being played as doubles. The padel courts will be available to members and non-members. Local schools will be offered regular opportunities for children to come and try this new sport.

2. Site Analysis

The application site sits next to the new golf centre planned for Lethamhill.

The proposed location for padel tennis is indicated on the plan below and has been selected to relate closely to the hub building, make use of all the facilities provided there and to sit behind the double height driving range.



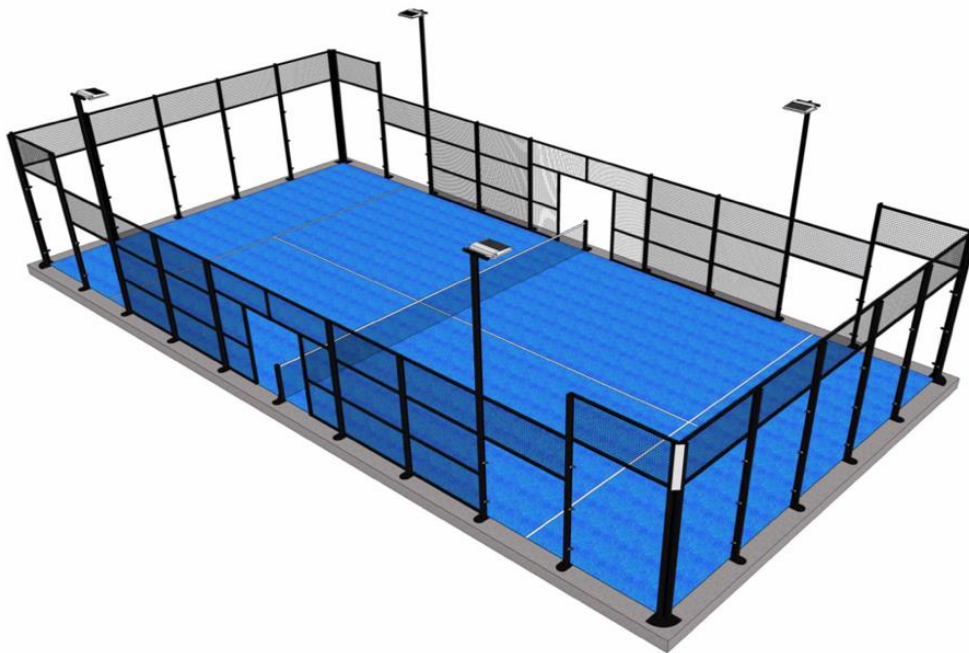
3. Design

The padel courts are designed in accordance with LTA and SAPCA guidance to meet the needs of the sport. Each court is 20m x 10m and is enclosed by metal posts which are infilled with clear toughened glass and metal mesh panels. The proposal is for black powder coated aluminium courts which ensures a sustainable and easy to maintain facility.

The surface is covered in artificial grass which would be blue in colour.

The padel court structure is between 3m and a maximum of 4m high. The canopy height is set to comply with the guidelines of the LTA and is designed to facilitate full play on the courts.

Typical Court diagram (canopy not shown for clarity)



4. Access

The court access is via the golf centre which leads to an automated gate entry system. This can be accessed by anyone via online booking and so play on the courts is open to everyone. The community access element is a key part of the ethos of the development.

There will be automatic control of the low energy LED floodlights which go on and off in line with bookings to ensure a low energy managed system. A floodlight curfew would be agreed as a planning condition.

The main access gates into the padel courts are wheelchair accessible and the access paths from car park to the courts will also be navigable by a wheelchair user.

The courts will be available regularly to local school groups to try padel. We will also work in partnership with the R&A to offer other activities in the covered space to encourage wider community participation in recreation and physical activity all year round.

5. Landscaping

Existing trees and shrubs will be retained or replaced around the site. The R&A application for the wider site includes a detailed tree survey and includes the area referred to in this application. Some low-level planting may be done around the court to enhance the visual impact of the courts.

6. Heritage

There is no impact on any heritage assets in the area.

7. Conclusion

The provision of padel tennis will add to the facilities available to the local community and provide access to a new sport in Glasgow that is increasingly popular in the UK. This will be the first such facility in the city and will offer access to a fun and healthy activity and provide a positive impact on the area and the local community.

It will enhance the proposed sports facilities at the Community Golf Centre which will help to support the continued growth and sustainability of the site and ensure the future of the centre.

In conclusion, the proposal is acceptable in principle being complementary to the golf proposal and the fencing and glass surrounds are of an appropriate scale and form and do not affect neighbouring amenity. The proposal is functional in scale and type. The development is a positive investment in a community facility which will increase activity and leisure opportunities for all ages within the local community and the wider area of Glasgow and the West of Scotland.