

**NEWMAN COLLARD PARK - MUGA**  
Hill Brow Road, Liss, Hampshire GU33 7LE

1012

**ECOSYSTEMS SERVICES STATEMENT**

Planning ref SDNP/24/00553/FUL

**INTRODUCTION**

I have been asked to provide this Statement, even though I think it is not relevant to this application. Within the email, immediately after the request, it actually states:-

“Whilst we endeavour to take proportionate approach to our validation requirements, you may consider that some matters requested are not relevant and we would therefore require a statement justifying their exclusion in this case.”

This is the first time I have come across this opportunity. I do not know whether this is specific to this application (as the registration team feel the same as I do) or whether it is a common theme. I had thought that the Government was trying to make planning simpler. We only need permission for the 3m high fence and four 6m high floodlight columns!

**STATEMENT**

The only applicable items in the Policy Framework are items (j) and (k).

So I will address those items:-

These are playing fields, together with a children’s play area, a pond, pavilion and Memorial Park. The application is to improve and enhance the facilities on the site.

The Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) will support that established use and will be no different to the activities, which already take place on the site. Overall, this is for the health and well being of the public. It is so obvious it doesn’t really need stating.

The MUGA will enable informal sports to be played even when the pitches are sodden and unplayable.

The actual surface of the MUGA is permeable, which is actually stated on the drawing. We are using energy saving LED lighting, with the floodlights set to a horizontal plane, so this will comply with SD8:- Dark Night Skies. This is also mentioned on the drawing.

We are providing access to the MUGA with new steps and pathway, creating better links to other areas of the playing fields and enhancing walking routes, which already exist through the park. In the future there will be adult exercise machines adjacent to the MUGA. Two gates are provided to the MUGA for anti bullying reasons.

There are already established trees and hedges on the surrounding site. We chose black fencing as, from a distance, it merges better into the background of the hedge. All these things were considered naturally when designing the scheme.

**MICHAEL WEAKLEY ASSOCIATES**

February 2024