Fwd: Planning application AWDM/0338/22

1 message

Planning - <planning@adur-worthing.gov.uk> 30 May 2022 at 10:12
To: Planning - <planning@adur-worthing.gov.uk>

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From: **Mark Norris** [redacted]
Date: Fri, 27 May 2022 at 14:34
Subject: Planning application AWDM/0338/22

Good afternoon

I hope this email finds you well. As Chairman of Shoreham Rugby Club I would like to support the application from SRWA to extend their operating times for their 3G pitch. As the only rugby club in the Adur district we always struggled for numbers for our senior teams and have on many occasions had to fold our 2nd XV due to numbers. There were a few factors but the main one was that during winter months we had to train at Buckingham Park under our portable flood lights. That limited what we could do and frankly the willingness from players to turn up, set up the lights and then perform limited training dampened their spirts. However, since we have been using SRWA mid week for our training our numbers have improved and in fact we have won two back to back leagues. Our 1st XV captain and head coach has attributed this to the training facilities offered at SRWA. These facilities are in the fact superior to local clubs like Brighton and Hove. Our numbers in our senior section have grown massively and this coming September will be the first time in four years that we can enter two full league teams. The leagues we are now playing in will be against the “bigger” clubs in the county, Haywards Heath, Chichester and Worthing. These clubs have the facilities to train multiple times a week. Unfortunately due to the demand for the 3G pitch at SRWA we can only secure one session a week.

We desperately need a second session and allowing more time slots at the school would benefit our rugby club. It would also benefit our youth section as again our older age groups U16s and U17s also need to perform mid week training and at present share the 3G pitch with our seniors. This season our youth numbers for the 1st time exceed 200 youth players and will be higher again in September. Being able to offer mid week training to more age groups would be beneficial to the players. Playing any team support helps children development and learn life skills as a team player. Rugy has always been about learning respect and team work. The greater access to facilities offered by SRWA can only be a bonus to our up and coming rugby players. This is why Shoreham Rugby Club would like to support the schools application in extending their opening times for the 3G pitch.

Mark Norris

Club Chairman Shoreham RFC.