

DESIGN STATEMENT

AVON ARCHITECTURE

P124

SYNDER MEADOW - WELFORD ON AVON

INTRODUCTION

This design statement accompanies an application for a replacement sports and community pavilion building at Synder Meadow Sports Ground in Welford on Avon.

HISTORY

The existing (and site of the proposed) pavilion is located within the grounds of Synder Meadow Sports Ground, situated off Binton Road to the northern edge of Welford on Avon. The site is owned by the Welford on Avon Parish Council and lies within the floodplain of the River Avon.

The existing facilities are dilapidated and inadequate for the growing needs of the Sports Club, which is currently divided between the village football and cricket clubs. The existing pavilion was originally designed to serve just the cricket club, however expansion into male and female football clubs over the years has meant that the building is now very much unfit for purpose. Due to the age of the existing pavilion, access for the disabled is also inadequate and some basic facilities are not provided.

The only real sensible option is to build a replacement pavilion which will not only satisfy the growing needs of the Sports Club, but also provide a community space to encourage further use of the building and wider site as well as expanding the recreational use of Synder Meadow by way of introducing additional, much-needed facilities to ultimately benefit the local village and community.

THE SITE

The existing pavilion is to be demolished to make way for the new building, whilst existing storage outbuildings will be retained but relocated to the south-east corner of the site.

The site is level and contains a number of mature trees (mainly oak) along the eastern boundary. The site is accessed from an existing service road, connecting to Binton Road. There is also a permissive footpath and access gate along the northern boundary fence, allowing pedestrian access directly onto the site.

THE LAYOUT

The proposed location of the replacement pavilion has been chosen, taking the site constraints into account, such as the existing drainage system, mature trees on the eastern boundary, underground electric cabling etc.

Unisex team changing and toilet/shower facilities are located on either side of the central community area. The scheme also provides for first aid facilities, referee room etc. An external covered terrace leads onto steps providing direct access to the playing fields.

DESIGN & MATERIALS

The proposed replacement pavilion has been designed to sit on concrete-encased steel posts, of minimal diameter, both to minimise impact of fluvial flooding but to also achieve a contemporary and 'lightweight' appearance. The scale of the building has been limited to one of residential proportions, with heights kept to a sensible volume. Smooth modern render and timber cladding to the external walls introduce a modern materiality to the site whilst complimenting the surrounding vernacular and landscape.

LIGHTING

Low level lighting and a CCTV system to the exterior to be provided to maintain safety and security, including low level post lights to the car parking area. Fittings are to be selected to minimise light pollution to neighbouring sites and respect the local dark skies policy.