

APPENDIX 5

PUBLIC CONSULTATION – PROPOSED LEASE OF LAND IN MANSEL PARK BY BUSH HILL FC

Public comment is invited on a proposal by Southampton City Council to grant a 10 year lease to Bush Hill Football Club of a defined area within Mansel Park, returning this land to its former usage as a local football pitch. The area of the Park covered by this lease application is shown on the plan below.

Bush Hill FC have applied to the Council for the lease of this pitch as a facility of this order is required to enable the progression of the Club's first team to the Hampshire Premier League. The provision of a high quality local pitch will help the club retain its most skilled players, and provide an opportunity to attract local footballers who may currently play for Clubs outside of the area. Bush Hill FC is a well supported local Club, with its weekend games currently watched by up to 50 people.

Bush Hill FC also proposes to use the leased pitch area to develop ladies' and young people's football in the area, and to run training and fitness sessions open to the local community. The perimeter of the pitch will be marked by sections of low rail fencing, with gaps at intervals to allow continued public access to the area while matches are not in progress.

As the land to be potentially leased is classed as public open space, the Council is bound to advertise the proposed lease and to consider any objection prior to approval. The Council will consider public feedback on this proposal at the conclusion of a four week consultation period beginning Tuesday 2nd October before making a final decision on the granting of a lease. If you have any query about this proposal or a comment or objection to register during the consultation period, then please contact the Parks Team by writing to Brian Kneller at Red Lodge Depot, Vermont Close SO16 7LT, phoning Brian on 8083 4286, or emailing us at neighbourhoodservices@southampton.gov.uk.

Your local councillors have been canvassing public opinion of residents by speaking to them face-to-face on their doorsteps, and by telephone. If you wish to contact them, please do so by phone or email (councillor.c.mcewing@southampton.gov.uk 8032 8621, councillor.a.pope@southampton.gov.uk (07580) 715 687, councillor.l.whitbread@southampton.gov.uk 02380 775619) or writing to them directly c/o Members' Services, Civic Centre, Southampton SO14 7LY

If successful in the lease application, Bush Hill also advise that to satisfy League requirements they intend to apply for planning permission to erect changing facilities close to the pitch area for the use of competing teams and officials. This potential development is also shown on the plan below. The planning application for this changing facility will only be approved subject to a separate and satisfactory public consultation, as required by the planning process.