



HASLEMERE TOWN COUNCIL

Lion Green football pitch surface – recommendation to July Council 2022

At its meeting on 9th June, the Amenities Committee asked the Town Clerk to prepare a paper for Full Council with two options for the repair of the football pitch surface at Lion Green – one artificial and one organic. Replacing the surface with artificial grass has been discounted due to lack of suitability in an open, unsupervised setting.

Repair of the surface can be funded from £25k s.106 money being held by Waverley – the formal application for the money has been submitted and WBC officers have indicated that there is no issue using it for this purpose.

Options identified as follows:

OPTION 1 – ‘ORGANIC’ TYPE SURFACE.

The Deputy Town Clerk searched the internet and found an array of possible suggestions. Given the diversity of options on offer it was agreed that she would seek independent, professional advice. Noel MacKenzie from Sports Turf Consulting who has many years experience in working with turf in sports settings <https://sportsturfconsulting.com/about/> was contacted for his view. He knows Haslemere and Lion Green and used to work for Guildford Borough Council.

Noel’s view is that any pitch renovation would result in the same issue it currently has very swiftly. He identified two possible options:

1. Look at multi use games area (MUGA) synthetic surface provision.
2. Remove the goal posts and see what happens. This would still require the Council to renovate the area and crucially he doesn’t consider any turf surface is likely to withstand the level of usage this area gets.

Noel’s summary was: ‘It is obvious the facility is well used and enjoys considerable activity so really I think you are looking at a synthetic MUGA type approach’.

It is therefore recommended that the organic option is discounted.

OPTION 2 – ‘CONI PAVE’ ARTIFICIAL SURFACING (MUGA)

The Clerk spoke to the sales manager at VitaPlay, a leading supplier of childrens’ play equipment and surfacing. He stated that if you asked anyone within his organisation which surface they would recommend it would be Coni Pave – a type of MUGA flooring. This is different to the very smooth, unsuitable type of MUGA which the Amenities Committee had seen at its site visit to Muntham House School which as well as being very costly was not a great playing surface for football.

A specification sheet for Coni Pave is below.

The initial quote received from VitaPlay in March 2022 is below. VitaPlay say that this will not have changed vastly but we would need to ask them to update it should this option be selected.

Subtotal for above works: £21,070.00 (this is what we would pay as we can reclaim the VAT)

VAT: £4,214.00

Total: £25,284.00

RECOMMENDED: That the football pitch at Lion Green is repaired using Coni Pave as per Option 2 above. The Town Clerk is instructed to get an updated quote from VitaPlan and the repair is to be funded from the s.106 money being held by Waverley for use in Haslemere.

Rhyno Pave



Rhyno Pave is a cost-effective, coloured, recycled product. The safety surface contains a mixture of both natural aggregates and rubber. The addition of stone to the mix creates a more robust, slip resistant surface than other rubber surfaces making it ideal for footpaths or high traffic areas like sports courts. MUGA game surfaces are often laid on tarmac with a high traction polymeric spray. Rhyno Pave provides a cost-effective solution to polymeric rubber flooring. Taking on elements of both tarmac and polymeric rubber at a fraction of the cost.

Visually the combination lies somewhere between resin bound stone and tarmac; allowing it to seamlessly blend in with the built environment whilst providing subtle contrast to the surrounding greenspace.

Properties/Benefits

- Slip resistance.
- Sourced from recycled materials.
- Porous: meets requirements for SUD's (Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems).
- Low install costs.

Available Colours



Red



Grey and Red



Silver



Grey and Yellow



Yellow



All Black

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