

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH

NORTH DUDLEY AREA COMMITTEE

DATE: 17TH JUNE 2003

REQUEST TO LEASE LAND

LOCATION: LAND AT GOSPEL END ROAD/REAR OF SOUTHERN DOWN ROAD

(As shown on the plan attached)

BACKGROUND

A request has been received from the Sedgley Scorpions Football Team to lease the land at Gospel End Road (rear of Southerndown Road), Sedgley as their home football ground. It is a local, Sedgley based team with a chance for the local community to be part of the club and be involved in the Stourbridge Youth League, which is affiliated to the Birmingham County FA. They initially wish to construct a car park for the parents of the players. In order to secure extra funding, at some point they will also have to have changing room facilities. These may be of the portakabin type to begin with.

The Sedgley Scorpions also have a capital bid for funding going to the Dudley North Area Committee.

The land is under the control of the Directorate of the Urban Environment and is currently used as a football pitch and Public Open Space.

The home ground is required in order to secure further Lottery funding through organisations like Sportmatch, the Football Foundation and the Birmingham County FA. The playing field would be for the exclusive use of the Sedgley Scorpions though they have assured the Council that they will not bar the use of the playing field by local residents outside their training and match requirements. The Sedgley Scorpions are aware that they would be responsible for maintaining the site and obtaining the correct insurance required for the facilities and the use of the site.

COMMENTS

All the relevant Council departments have been consulted and no objections have been received.

PROPOSAL

That the Area Committee advises the Lead Member for the Directorate of Urban Environment to approve the application to lease the land on terms and conditions negotiated and agreed by the Director of Law and Property.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Letter from the applicant dated 25th April 2003.
2. Letters, memos and e-mails from Legal & Property Services dated 15th & 19th May 2003.
3. Memos and e-mails from the Directorate of the Urban Environment dated 19th May 2003.
4. E-mail from The Housing Department dated 19th May 2003.

Contact Officer: Alan Nugent, Property Manager, Ext 5351.

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scorpions.doc