

31 Armour Rd
Tilehurst

Dear Sirs,

On November 21st the Armour Road Residents Association convened a public meeting as a result of the intense disquiet felt over the proposals by Reading Leisure, the Tilehurst Pools Land Trust and the three local sports clubs to make changes in the management of the Victoria Recreation Ground.

I was mandated to write and make several points to you on behalf of the local people.

THE OVERWHELMING FEELING OF THE LOCAL PEOPLE WAS THAT THEY WISHED NO CHANGE TO THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS.

We are distressed that no one from the Borough Council, the Trustees or the local football and cricket clubs felt the need to discuss these plans or consult with the residents of Tilehurst, and one wonders how near to completion these plans would have come if the article in the Reading Chronicle had not drawn our attention to the matter.

There is a great deal of concern that the already serious parking problems in Armour Road and Kentwood Hill would be exacerbated if the Football Club joined a higher league as they wish.

There was a great deal of sympathy felt for the three clubs for the bad conditions endured by them in the changing rooms, and we wished to ask Reading Borough Council to spend the exorbitant fees they charge on cleaning the changing rooms adequately and maintaining the ground.

We recognise that the decision when it is taken may be against our wishes and if this is so give notice that we shall oppose it by any legal means that are available to us.

Our concerns are that the ground should be freely accessible at all times to the residents of Tilehurst and that there should be no hindrance to the youngsters who play in the Recreation Ground on an ad hoc basis.

The possibility of the pitches being roped off gives great cause for concern as we do not feel that the area is big enough.

Finally we would remind you that the ground was donated to the people of Tilehurst for their enjoyment at all times.

Yours faithfully

for the Armour Road Residents Association and their colleagues

To: Clerk to the Trustees Tilehurst Pools Land Trust
Chairman of the Trustees Tilehurst Pools Land Trust
Director of Leisure Services Reading Borough Council
Chairman Leisure Committee Reading Borough Council