

attempts to demonstrate that there is no realistic demand locally for any outdoor recreational use of this land. The report even dismisses outdoor tennis courts as a viable option for use, without providing a shred of evidence! Strangely enough the only recreational sport which this "report" thinks would meet a demand among the people of Balham is the sport of indoor bowling! And low and behold, what are do the developers say they will build below the flats (as a sop for the loss of the outdoor space), but a two rink indoor bowling facility! They claim this would provide the public with benefits comparable to the existing open land. (The report, listed as "OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES", can be found on the Related Documents page for this application on the Wandsworth planning website).

The Society is in possession of letters from local headteachers who say they could use $\frac{3}{4}$ acre of outdoor space within safe walking distance of their schools. Our understanding of the law is that there is no requirement for the schools or education authorities to buy this land for it to be used by schools in this way. It is a question of usage not ownership. If outdoor recreational and sports use is the only use of the land which the law allows, then it is up to the owner to work out a way of putting the land to this use. The Society believes that the developers should not have taken the risk of paying millions of pounds for the land without checking whether building on it would be lawful. Besides which, included in the £2½ million paid by the developer was the former club house in Ramsden Road and a corner plot, development of both of which seems perfectly sensible to the Society - although we are not happy with the details of the current proposals for the club house.

The full bowling green planning application can be seen at:

www.wandsworth.gov.uk. To find the application, first select Environment and Transport from the links at the top of the home page. From the list of Environment options select Search the planning register. This leads to a page where you can click on search the applications database. On the Search page enter the application number 2006/0890 in the Application Number box. A Search Results page should appear. Select the red-highlighted application number 2006/0890 and a Planning Applications Details summary page about the application will appear. You can inspect the plans, the applicant's documents, and see objection letters by selecting the View Related Documents link at the bottom of that page.

Objections can be sent by post to:

Mr Mark Hunter, Planning Department, The Town Hall, London SW18 2PU. In your objection you must quote "Application No 2006/0890".

Objections can also be made on-line directly from the planning application page for application 2006/0890:

Once you have got to the View Related Documents page select the Comment on Application option.

If you can also do so, and you live in Nightingale Ward, please write to the ward councillors, the first two of whom are on the Planning Applications Committee: (Remember there are local elections coming up shortly in May!)

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