Appendix 6b: Anchorsholme Park Planning Application

Response to issues raised in response to the application by the local councillors

1)The UU Pumping Station area should have the same specialist coloured topping area as the road feeding it that runs from the Prom to the Park, black tarmac will make this area look very industrial and not fitting for a park setting.

This was covered in our response to you on 27/3. In the revised application we have been able to significantly reduce the area of hard standing associated with the pumping station (and correspondingly increased the area of grass). The hardstanding around the pumping station has been changed to tarmac to delineate it from the public access areas. The main route through the park from Anchorsholme Lane West to the promenade is coloured to reflect the linkage to the promenade.

2)The crib walls which has replaced the gabion fencing in the first application must be an eco-crib wall to include some greenery otherwise it will look too concrete in appearance and again look too industrial.

Details can be agreed by planning condition to ensure the correct appearance.

3) The steel railings and handrails including in this application instead of the proposed timber boundary must be of an ornate nature and colour otherwise it will look again too industrial and not in keeping with a Park.

The proposed railings are a simple form, as used in other parks in Blackpool. They will provide an open aspect, rather than the solid appearance which the timber "fence" would have provided.

4) With the pump motors being relocated from the deep basement location to above ground level, we have major concerns about noise pollution from the pumps with residents living so close to the pumps.

The Control building housing the pump motors has been designed to ensure that the noise is within the limits identified in the submitted Environmental Statement.

5) With both of the clusters of 3 vent stacks to be operational emission points, what mitigation is in place to reduce odours from these increased numbers of stacks.

An odour control system is provided within the ventilation system to treat all air which will be emitted from the stacks.

6) The cafe and MUGA areas should include CCTV, it's noted by UU's own report on gabion fencing that they are at risk of vandalism. CCTV has been installed in the neighbouring Eastpines Park and has greatly reduced anti-social behaviour in the area.

It was agreed early in the discussions with BBC that CCTV and lighting was not required as part of the development.

7) I ask the planning committee to seek assurance that the new slopes in the Park will drain properly and if so how will this assurance be guaranteed.

It is noted that the existing park has a tendency to hold water in certain areas. The new layout has a drainage swale and pond which is designed to collect the water and allow it to dissipate from the swale or pond. An overflow has been provided for any excess water, this is unchanged from the previous application.

8) I ask the planning committee to confirm the MUGA area proposed contains four actual MUGA's to include spaces for tennis, football, basketball / netball etc

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The MUGA identified in the Planning Application is the same arrangement as previously approved. It contains four pitches marked out to support tennis, football and basketball as agreed with BBC officers.

9) I ask the planning committee to confirm the Trim Trail area contains the Zip Wire that ward councillor and forum money paid for?

The trim trail equipment, including the zip wire has been dismantled by the company who installed it, they will be engaged to re-erect and certify the equipment when the project nears completion.

10) I ask the planning committee to seek qualification on what the sandstone coloured corner areas will look like, will they contain noticeboards etc.

The intention previously agreed with officers was to provide a coloured area at the two main entrances to identify the potential route to the promenade. Any existing noticeboards will be retained. Content will be agreed before the Park is handed back to BBC.

11) The Amphitheatre area should have electricity points for performer's sound equipment.

There has been no previous request for the provision of a power supply to the Amphitheatre.

12) The existing noticeboard that was paid for by councillor ward budget at Anchorsholme Lane West entrance which contains a map of Anchorsholme Park should be updated to include a new map of the Park.

See above

13) The short access road from the Prom to the cafe should contain lighting, so that the cafe can be used at night by the Scouts and Guides, without lighting it will undermine a key social role for the cafe and the Park.

There has been no previous request for the provision of lighting to the park and this has been discouraged from discussions.

14) I ask the Planning committee to seek assurance as to make sure what is promised is delivered and what guarantees are in place to make sure that is what happens as we have already seen a number of changes to the scheme?"

The proposed changes arise as a result of completing the majority of the detailed design of the pumping station. When agreed these will be delivered, as the project is already on site and underway.

Some of the detail of the Park itself are with BBC to design and will require further discussion as the final details are developed. Some aspects can be covered by planning condition if required.

All details will need to be agreed with BBC before we hand the Park back to them at the completion of the project.

Whilst United Utilities will no doubt protest at the addition of costs to pay for the installation of CCTV in the Park and lighting on the road leading to the cafe, the costs saved by not removing the soil from the Park and increasing the slopes by 500 mm will pay for the cost and ensure the Park is not only safe but guaranteed to be used all year round.

See above