

SportsPark Pavilion

Site information

Reasons for Demolition

The existing Athletics Pavilion, constructed in 1938, has outlived its economic and environmental lifespan. It is a two storey brick building comprised of changing facilities with poor qualities of environment and significant defects including water damage and inadequate insulation, inefficient doors, rainwater goods and window frames, and large areas of de-bonded and unhygienic finishes. In addition to this, the mechanical and electrical services are reaching the end of their operating life. It has become increasingly unsatisfactory for external pitch lettings. The site of the existing Athletics Pavilion will be reinstated as a grassed area, providing an extension to the current cricket pitch's boundary.

The proposal will replace the existing accommodation of changing rooms, showers, toilet facilities, and the cricketer's club room, while providing additional features such as covered entrance spaces with bench seating for the removal/cleaning of boots. This new building will bring the added benefits of improved and inclusive facilities to accommodate the increased demand as well as meeting 'Sport England' criteria and current legislation.



Above: extract from the Whiteknights Redevelopment Plan, 2007

Right: plan for the proposed SportsPark Pavilion showing car parking and routes to the site

SportsPark Pavilion

The proposed 'SportsPark Pavilion' will be a single storey construction, clad in timber and situated within the natural setting with soft landscaping and tree planting.

The new sports building has been designed to maximise the potential of the existing site and the footprint of the existing building, while retaining a low lying character that situates it within the open space of the playing fields.

Given the make-up of its accommodation and the site location it was best to retain a very simple appearance to the building. Hence the layouts have been re-organised to retain a simple box form with cut outs to form key entrances. The sequencing of spaces from the central circulation spine to the exterior (dry to wet functions) is an efficient solution for the daily cleaning of the building while also informing the decision to generate solely top-lit spaces with a continuous timber-wrapped facade on the exterior.

The plan of the building is responsive to users arriving in the direction of Queens Drive and the

SportsPark Centre. It is envisaged that users will make use of the existing path in this location and that paved concourses will open out from the new Sports Park Pavilion. A bite has been taken out of the new building to provide a covered area outside of the building for users to remove/clean boots and to fill water bottles.

Creating sheltered openings and a cricketer's club room helps foster a sense of place that can help define and strengthen the university's community atmosphere on campus. A Staff Office has been located adjacent to the main entrance to provide a level of passive supervision to the entrance area.

This design intends to touch the existing context lightly and will be expressed through high quality materials and contemporary design that both respects the immediate hinterland's natural setting and is an appropriate expression for this University in the twenty-first century.



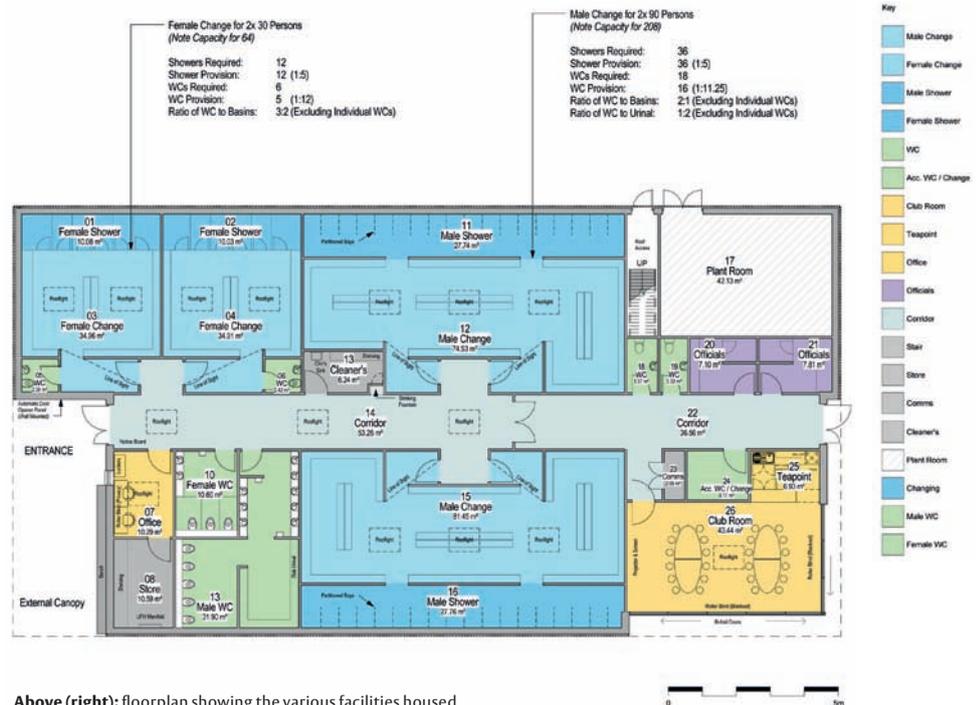
SportsPark Pavilion Plans

Sustainability benefits

This Project involves the replacement of an existing inefficient building in a poor state of repair dating back to the 1930s, with a modern highly efficient facility. The new building will be designed & constructed to achieve a BREEAM 'Very Good' standard. It will be highly insulated & airtight, and incorporate features such as LED lighting, low water use appliances, heat recovery & demand control on the mechanical ventilation systems for the changing rooms, and fast response heating systems. A 45m² area photovoltaic (PV) renewable energy source will be provided on the roof to generate electricity for use in the building, and by other buildings on the campus when demand is low. This system will offset almost 3000 kg of CO₂ per annum, and save over £1000 per year in energy cost.



Above (left): 3D rendering showing the front of the Pavilion looking towards Elmhurst Road



Above (right): floorplan showing the various facilities housed within the new building

Below: 3D rendering showing the back of the Pavilion looking towards the existing SportsPark building and Whiteknights campus



SportsPark Pavilion

Your feedback

Thank you for attending the exhibition. We welcome your comments.

Please use the forms provided to submit your comments and post them into the box provided. Alternatively, you can email your comments to a.westgarth@reading.ac.uk with the subject heading 'Sports Park Pavilion Feedback'.

All comments should be submitted by **Thursday 16 January 2014**.

The University will consider the responses received from the exhibition and will review the proposals where possible before submitting a planning application to Reading Borough Council. The council will then offer a further opportunity for consultation as part of its statutory planning process.

If planning consent is given, the University would aim to start construction work in June 2014.



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SportsPark Pavilion: your feedback

Please return this form to us by posting it in the box at the SportsPark reception desk by Thursday 16 January 2014.

Your comments on the proposal

Your details (optional)

Name
Address

SportsPark Pavilion: your feedback
For more information, please contact:
Ann Westgarth,
Community

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