

Item 5 **09/00702/CB3** **Referred to Full Council for Decision**

Case Officer **Mr David Stirzaker**

Ward **Chorley East**

Proposal **Erection of 8m high flagpole to display Green Flag Award**

Location **Tatton Community Centre And Park Silverdale Road Chorley**

Applicant **Chorley Borough Council**

Proposal: This application for advertisement consent proposes the erection of an 8m high flagpole displaying the Green Flag award logo. The flagpole is proposed to be sited approx. 12m north of the Tatton Community Centre building.

Background: The Council's Parks and Open Spaces Officer states that the flagpole is proposed to display the proud achievement of Tatton Community Centre and Park being awarded a Green Flag which also meets the Corporate Target 12 months ahead of schedule.

The Green Flag Award is the national standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales. The award scheme began in 1996 as a means of recognising and rewarding the best green spaces in the country. It was also seen as a way of encouraging others to achieve the same high environmental standards, creating a benchmark of excellence in recreational green areas.

Summary: The main issues with this application are the impact of the flag on the visual amenities of the locality and the trees.

Planning Policy: **Chorley Borough Local Plan Review:**
GN1 - Main Settlements
GN5 - Building Design & Retaining Existing Landscape Features
LT14 - Public, Private, Educational & Institutional Playing Fields, Parks and Other Recreational Open Space

Planning History: 98/00158/FUL - Provision of apparatus for in-line skate park (Granted planning permission on 20th May 1998)

Consultations: LCC Strategic Planning

No objections to the proposed flagpole.

Representations: To date, no representations have been made to the Council in relation to the application. However, if any are made, they will be reported in the Addendum.

Assessment: Principle of development

Tatton Community Centre and Park is located in the main Chorley Settlement Area covered by Policy GN1 of the Chorley Local Plan Review. The only reason why advertisement consent is required is because a national flag is not being displayed otherwise advertisement consent would not be required. Notwithstanding this, given the site is in the main Chorley Settlement Area, the

principle of new development is acceptable subject to accordance with other relevant Planning Policies.

Layout and Design and Appearance

The flagpole is proposed to be 8m high and will display the Green Flag Award relating to the recently awarded status of the site. The flagpole will be sited approx. 12m north of Tatton Community Centre close to one of the tarmac pathways that run throughout the site. The site contains a variety of play equipment and the main recreation area is floodlit so there is a range of different structures and buildings on the site.

Given there are already floodlighting columns on the site of a similar height and various other forms of development, on this basis, it is not therefore considered that the flagpole will be detrimental to the visual character of the park and wider area.

Neighbour Amenity

The nearest residential property to the flagpole is approx. 32m away, a distance which is broken up with established existing trees. The flagpole is not a bulky structure and given the stated distance, it is not considered that it will harm the living conditions of the occupiers of the adjacent residential properties hence there are no objections on these grounds.

Conclusion: On the basis of the above, it is considered that the flagpole is acceptable and that advertisement consent be granted.

Recommendation: Referred to Full Council for Decision
