

OUTLINE PLANNING APPLICATION FOR A DETACHED DWELLING

LAND AT
SACRED HEART FOOTBALL CLUB
BELLFIELD MILL LANE
ROCHDALE

ON BEHALF OF
SACRED HEART FOOTBALL CLUB

PRELIMINARY BALL STRIKE
ASSESSMENT

DATED: JUNE 2026

SUBMITTED BY NORTHERN DESIGN (OLDHAM)
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The Site

1.0 - The Site

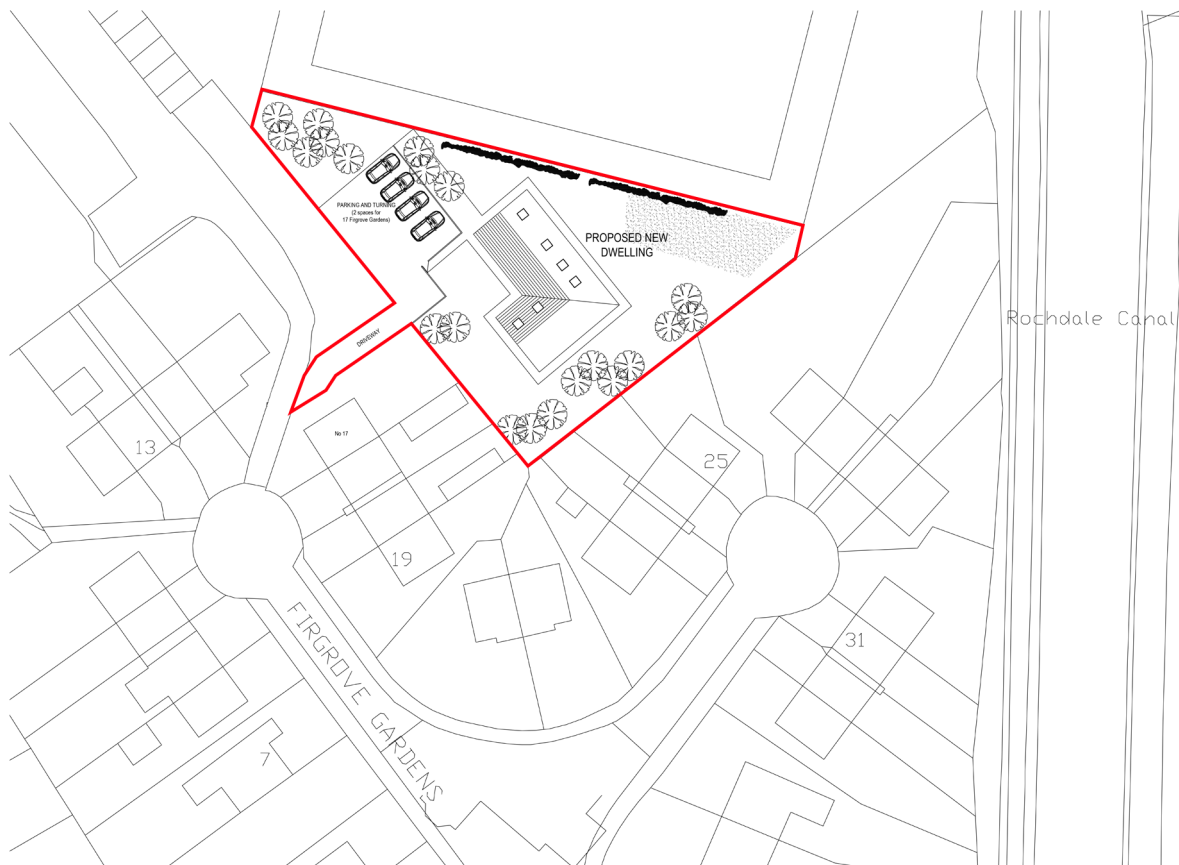
1.01 - The site is an area of land to the rear of the Football Pitch which is uneven, overgrown and not used as part of the sports facilities

1.02 - The site at present has access on foot from the pitch and training area.

1.03 - Matches and training sessions are played once per week.

1.04 - The pitch used by Sacred Heart football club is an 11 a-side football pitch.

1.05 - Proposed Site Boundary



The Site

1.06 - Adjacent site boundaries



Ball Strike Risk Analysis

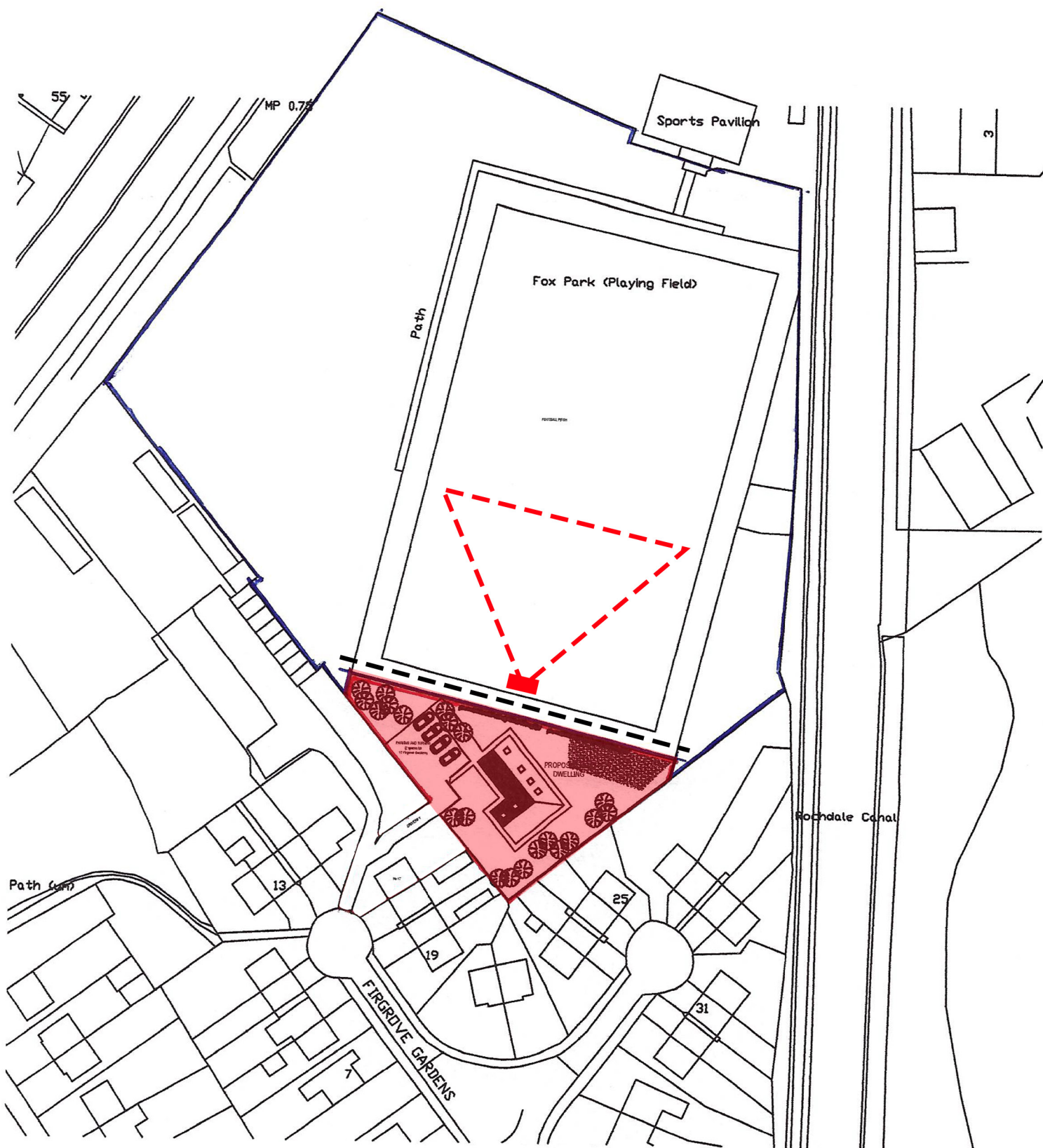
2.0 - Ball Strike Risk Analysis

2.01 - Shots will be directed towards the goal area. The nearest point from the centre of the goal to the proposed dwelling is 7.8 m. The furthest point within the identified high-risk area is 18 m.

2.02 - The pitch will be used for both training sessions and matches. Training sessions and matches are typically held once per week. Shot frequency is expected to be higher during match days and lower during training sessions due to the use of additional netting located outside the main playing area.

2.03 - The ages of participants will vary from youth teams aged 6–16 years to players aged 16 and over within the first team and reserve teams. All football activity is conducted at an amateur level. In the absence of measured data, typical ball speeds in amateur football are estimated to range between 72 and 90 km/h, with launch angles generally ranging between 10 and 20 degrees. These figures have been adopted for the purposes of this assessment and should be regarded as indicative values.

2.04 - The area considered to be at the highest risk of ball strikes is the proposed development site adjacent to the football pitch. This area is located directly behind the goal and is therefore most likely to be affected by over hit shots, misdirected strikes, and balls that travel beyond the boundary of the playing area.



High Risk Zone

High Frequency Shot Direction

Recommended Netting

Netting Recommendation

3.0 - Netting Recommendation

3.01 – Netting Type

It is recommended that heavy-duty football netting be installed behind the goal area. The proposed netting should comprise UV-stabilised HDPE (High-Density Polyethylene) twine with a 100 mm mesh size and an approximate twine thickness of 3 mm. The netting has a stated breaking force of approximately 150 kg and is specifically designed for ball retention applications behind football goals and around sports facilities.

A net height of between 6 m and 10 m is considered appropriate for the location and level of football activity, providing an effective barrier to intercept over hit shots and balls travelling beyond the goal area.

3.02 – Netting Function

The primary function of the proposed netting is to reduce the risk of footballs leaving the playing area and striking the adjacent proposed development site. By capturing or slowing the velocity of footballs, the netting will significantly reduce the likelihood of damage to property, injury to occupants, and nuisance associated with ball strikes.



Conclusion

4.0 - Conclusion

4.01 - Based on the assessment, the proposed development site is located within an area that may be affected by occasional ball strikes from football activities. However, the installation of heavy-duty ball-stop netting behind the goal, with a recommended height of between 6 m and 10 m, is considered an effective mitigation measure. It is therefore concluded that the residual risk of ball strikes affecting the proposed development site is low and acceptable.