

DARTWOOD

PROPERTY SOLUTIONS

Noise Assessment

prepared in relation to:

**Heckmondwike Bowling Club
Green Avenue
Heckmondwike
West Yorkshire
WF16 9LD**

**Submitted to Kirklees Council in support of planning
application 2026/91793 for repurposing one bowling green
to form an all-weather artificial sports surface**

Prepared By	Chris Wood MCIOB
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Noise Assessment
Planning Application;
Heckmondwike Bowling Club, Green Avenue, Heckmondwike, WF16 9LD

CONTENTS	Page
1.0 Introduction	3
1.1 The Site	
1.2 Date of Inspection	
1.3 Surveyor	
1.4 Applicant	
1.5 Purpose and Scope of Assessment	
2.0 Site Description and Proposed Development	4
2.1 Existing Site	
2.2 Proposed Development	
2.3 Existing and Proposed Hours of Use	
3.0 Noise Assessment Context	5
3.1 Nature and Sources of Noise	
3.2 Noise-Sensitive Receptors	
3.3 Planning Policy and Guidance	
3.4 Relevant Acoustic Guidance	
4.0 Assessment of Operational Noise	6
4.1 Existing Acoustic Environment	
4.2 Football / Sports Activity Noise	
4.3 Spectator and User Noise	
4.4 Vehicle Movements and Parking	
4.5 Plant, Public Address and Fixed Sources	
5.0 Mitigation and Management Measures	7
6.0 Construction Noise	
7.0 Overall Conclusions and Recommendations	

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Site

- 1.1.1 Bowling pitches, Heckmondwike Bowling Club, Green Avenue, Heckmondwike, West Yorkshire, WF16 9LD.

1.2 Date of Inspection

- 1.2.1 Site inspection undertaken 24/8/2026. Further site information has been reviewed during preparation of the planning application.

1.3 Surveyor

- 1.3.1 Chris Wood BSc. (Hons.) MCIOB - building surveyor of 20 years' experience and a builder chartered by The Chartered Institute of Building (member 1480701).

1.4 Applicant

- 1.4.1 Report to accompany planning application submitted by White Rose Allstars Junior Football Club in partnership with Heckmondwike Bowling Club.

1.5 Purpose and Scope of Assessment

- 1.5.1 This Noise Assessment has been prepared in support of Planning Application 2026/91793 for the conversion of one existing bowling green at Heckmondwike Bowling Club to an all-weather artificial sports surface for football and community recreational use.
- 1.5.2 The assessment considers the potential operational noise associated with the proposed use, including player and spectator voices, referee whistles, ball impacts and vehicle movements. It also considers the relationship of the proposed pitch to surrounding noise-sensitive receptors and identifies proportionate management and mitigation measures.
- 1.5.3 This report is intended to be read alongside the submitted planning drawings, Design and Access Statement and Planning Statement. It is a proportionate planning assessment and does not purport to be an instrumented acoustic survey.

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION AND PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

2.1 Existing Site

- 2.1.1 Heckmondwike Bowling Club is an established community sports site comprising two outdoor bowling greens, a clubhouse and toilet building, access road, car park, footpaths and perimeter planting. The submitted site plan records 42 car parking spaces.
- 2.1.2 The site is already in recreational use. Existing boundary features include mature hedging, fencing, walls and perimeter vegetation. These features are to remain unaffected by the proposal.
- 2.1.3 Nearby Housing at Green Court, approx. 60 – 100 yards away and Green Avenue Residents in homes built within the club's former car park in 1992, which stand approximately 40 – 60 yards away from the proposed area.

2.2 Proposed Development

- 2.2.1 The proposal comprises the conversion of Bowling Green 2 from an existing grass bowling surface to an all-weather artificial sports surface. Bowling Green 1 is retained.
- 2.2.2 No new building is proposed. The existing clubhouse, toilet building, access, car parking and perimeter landscaping are retained. The submitted planning documents confirm that the proposal does not include new floodlighting.

2.3 Existing and Proposed Hours of Use

- 2.3.1 Presently the green is in operation 5 nights per week 7 pm – 10:30pm and Weekends 2pm – 9pm in the bowling season, this will change to operational hours of 4pm – 9pm Midweek and Weekends 8:30am – 6pm, offering more sociable hours than present.

3.0 NOISE ASSESSMENT CONTEXT

3.1 Nature and Sources of Noise

- 3.1.1 The principal noise sources associated with the proposed use are expected to comprise player voices, occasional referee whistles, ball impacts, spectator voices and arrivals / departures associated with users of the pitch.
- 3.1.2 The proposal is materially different from the introduction of a new sports facility onto previously quiet land because the application site is an established recreational facility with existing sporting and community activity.

3.2 Noise-Sensitive Receptors

- 3.2.1 The principal noise-sensitive receptors are the residential properties at Green Court and Green Avenue identified in Section 2.1.3. The proposal does not introduce a new recreational use to the site; rather, it changes the nature of sporting activity on one of the two existing bowling greens. The potential effect upon these receptors has therefore been considered in the context of the site's established recreational use.

3.3 Planning Policy and Guidance

- 3.3.1 The assessment has regard to the National Planning Policy Framework and national Planning Practice Guidance relating to noise. Consideration has been given to avoiding significant adverse effects and mitigating other adverse effects so far as reasonably practicable.

3.4 Relevant Acoustic Guidance

- 3.4.1 Consideration has been given to relevant national planning policy and guidance, including the Noise Policy Statement for England. Given the scale and nature of the proposal, the assessment is qualitative and proportionate to the proposed development and existing recreational use of the site

4.0 ASSESSMENT OF OPERATIONAL NOISE

4.1 Existing Acoustic Environment

- 4.1.1 Principal existing noise at the site arises from spectators and participants associated with bowling matches. Adult spectators are approximately 10 to 12 per match and limited to moderate cheering during the games.

4.2 Football / Sports Activity Noise

- 4.2.1 The most characteristic sources from football use are expected to be intermittent voices, whistles and ball impacts. Their significance will depend upon the intensity and duration of use, the number of participants, the hours of operation and the separation to neighbouring dwellings.
- 4.2.2 The intended use of the site is limited to training and junior matches which will take place regularly, with attendees comprising parents and coaches. The age range will be mostly ages 10 and below (junior use), with only occasional use of pitch for under 11 and under 12 ages.

4.3 Spectator and User Noise

- 4.3.1 There will be regular attendance from parents and coaches and the frequency of noise will be similar to that of a normal bowling match. Organized competitive games usually attract around 14- 18 adults and noise levels can be raised occasionally. Spectator attendance is expected principally to comprise parents and coaches. Noise from spectators is expected to be intermittent and associated with normal junior grassroots football activity.

4.4 Vehicle Movements and Parking

- 4.4.1 The site already benefits from established access and car park. The assessment therefore considers the incremental change in vehicle activity associated with the proposed pitch rather than treating all existing site traffic as new development traffic.

4.5 Plant, Public Address and Fixed Sources

- 4.5.1 No public address system is to be added or proposed. There will be no fixed speakers.

5.0 MITIGATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

- 5.0.1 Proportionate operational controls will include adherence to the proposed hours of use, no amplified music or public-address system, responsible management of whistles and spectator behaviour, and retention of the existing boundary vegetation.
- 5.0.2 Should any substantiated noise complaint arise from operation of the facility, the applicant will investigate the matter and, where reasonably necessary, implement appropriate management measures.

6.0 CONSTRUCTION NOISE

- 6.0.1 Construction effects will be temporary and associated principally with removal / preparation of the existing surface, formation of the new pitch construction and associated installation works.
- 6.0.2 Reasonable construction controls should include daytime working, avoidance of unnecessary plant idling, considerate delivery arrangements and good site management to minimise disturbance to nearby occupiers.

7.0 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.0.1 Having regard to the established recreational use of the site, the nature and scale of the proposed junior football use, the separation from nearby residential properties, the retention of existing boundary features and the proposed hours of operation, it is considered that the development is unlikely to result in an unacceptable adverse noise impact upon neighbouring residential amenity. The proposed use would operate within more restricted evening hours than the existing seasonal bowling use and would not include floodlighting, amplified music or a public-address system.