

Beacon Road Hockey Field

Dear Consultations Team

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**Herne Bay: Let’s Make Health Our Industry Again.**

Once proudly known as “Herne Bay – our only industry is Healthmaking”, this slogan can and should be brought back to life. Our town already holds everything needed to live up to it: a thriving seafront, rowing and sailing clubs, boat launch facilities, Memorial Park with its tennis and basketball courts, Cycle lanes supported with the 20 MPH driving speed limits, the out of town Bay Sports Arena, a centrally located football pitch, Herons Leisure Centre, and soon, the David Lloyd Centre.

Herne Bay has the facilities, the spirit, and the potential to be a true Healthmaking place to live. But for this vision to succeed, we must put environmental protection at the heart of every decision about our future.

**Let’s make Herne Bay not only a healthier place for people, but a thriving place for nature too.**

Now is the time – let’s protect, invest, and grow our town as the Healthmaking capital of the coast.

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This is clearly stated within the “Herne Bay Conservation Area Appraisal - The Character of a Seaside Town” Herne Bay CAA (Aug 2008) (Source: [www.canterbury.gov.uk/planning-and-building/conservation-areas](http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/planning-and-building/conservation-areas))) **ATTACHED**

**PAGE 114 - Area 13: Canterbury Road, Beltinge Road and Mickleburgh Hill:**

*Within the major street block on the hillside east of the Canterbury Road is the open sports ground, concealed behind the houses fronting the surrounding roads. This is large-scale private space. As noted earlier it is of great intrinsic historic interest in its own right, a planned feature of this part of the town since its inception, and should be protected as such. Spatially, because of its size and open nature, it dominates its surroundings. It has great potential for enhancement through improved boundary treatments, access paving, perimeter planting etc.*

The most important and fundamental point is this is a clearly defined conservation area, meaning development here **MUST** be restricted, and more weight given to preserving the historic and environmental character of the space.

**Alternative Uses for the Land**

**Sports Recreation**

Continued use of the land by a sports recreation club - cricket, rugby, padel

Bring sport back to the town centre. Bring sport back to the town centre. The relocation of the majority of Clubs to the Herne Bay Sports Hub has channeled all the revenue-making opportunities away from the town centre, which means the local businesses no longer benefit from match-day visitors.