

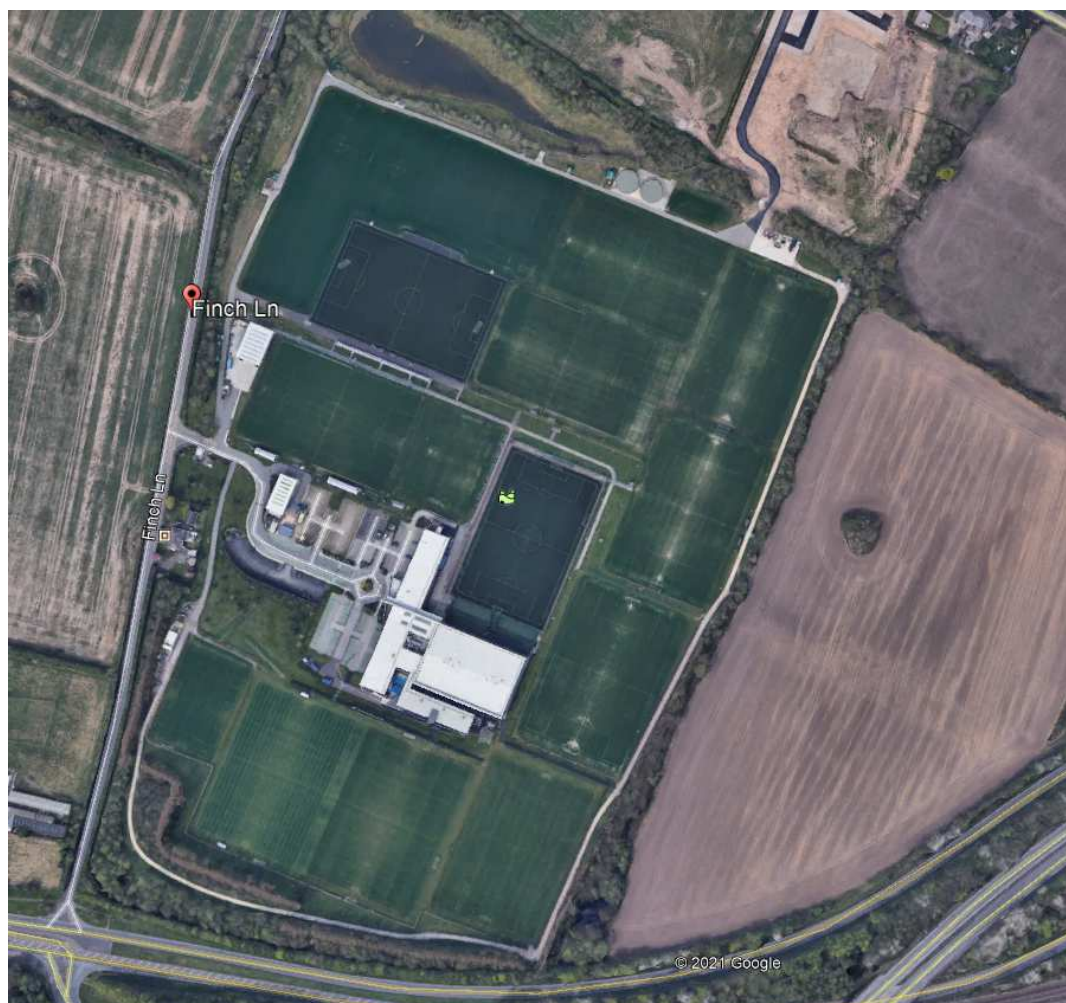


EVERTON FOOTBALL CLUB

PROPOSED FLOODLIGHTS TO FIRST TEAM TRAINING AREA USM FINCH FARM, FINCH LANE, HALEWOOD, L26 3UE

211508-AFL-00-XX-RP-A-00001

DESIGN & ACCESS STATEMENT: ARCHITECTURAL



Rev	date	amendment
P1	08.04.2021	PLANNING ISSUE
P2	27.05.2021	PLANNING ISSUE-GENERAL UPDATE

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OBJECT

The object of this proposed development is to provide 12 no floodlights to the first team training pitches at Everton FC USM Finch Farm Training Facility at Halewood.

CONCEPT

- 12 no 15m height masts with dark skies compliant luminaires to an existing established football academy and training facility.

CONTENT

Existing Training Facility

- The existing buildings are located to the central southern area of the training ground site.
- There are existing non floodlit pitches to the north east, north west and south west of the site.
- There are 5 no existing floodlit pitches to the north and east of the training facility site. One of these is due to be removed for construction of a full-size indoor training facility (KMBC approval 18/00596). Floodlighting to these areas is provided by dark skies compliant original (2007) HID and later (2016) LED fittings mounted on 12-15m high masts.
- Performance analysis camera masts presently exist to the application area (KMBC approval 16/00733).

Proposed Floodlights to First Team Training Pitches

- 12 no 15m tall masts with dark skies compliant LED fittings.
- These are proposed to the 2 southernmost training pitches.
- 2 no existing performance analysis camera masts will be relocated in line with the proposed new masts.
- At the head of each column will be an array of LED luminaires similar in appearance to those on pitches to the northern area of the site. These will be focused onto the playing surfaces only. Refer to submitted drawing.

SITING

The proposed floodlight masts are located on the edge of the run-off zone of the selected pitches, around 4.5m as shown on the application drawings.

MAST DESIGN

The proposed masts are 15m tall, similar in appearance to the existing floodlights on the site. The steel can be finished in grey or shades of green to blend in with the surrounding treescape. The central line of proposed masts will carry the fittings to illuminate the inner sides of 2 pitches to avoid duplication of masts.

ELEVATIONAL MATERIALS

The 15 metres tall columns and heads will have a galvanised silver-grey finish which will blend in with the average typical British sky, or green to blend in with the surrounding tree canopy. The design is the optimum that would be fit for purpose to provide the required level of controlled illumination and dark skies compliance.

VISIBILITY

The south, east and western boundaries of the site are substantially screened by mounding and tree planting as part of the original development in 2007. The treescape is now quite dense and mature, and the application areas is not readily visible from ground floor level of adjacent sites. The nearest residential property 1 Finch Lane is approximately 101.5m from the nearest proposed lighting mast.

Higher Road (A562) to the south of the application area is a street-lit trunk road with a 40-60mph limit.



Birds eye view of USM Finch Farm Training Facility from South (A562 Higher Road)

(@Google Earth)



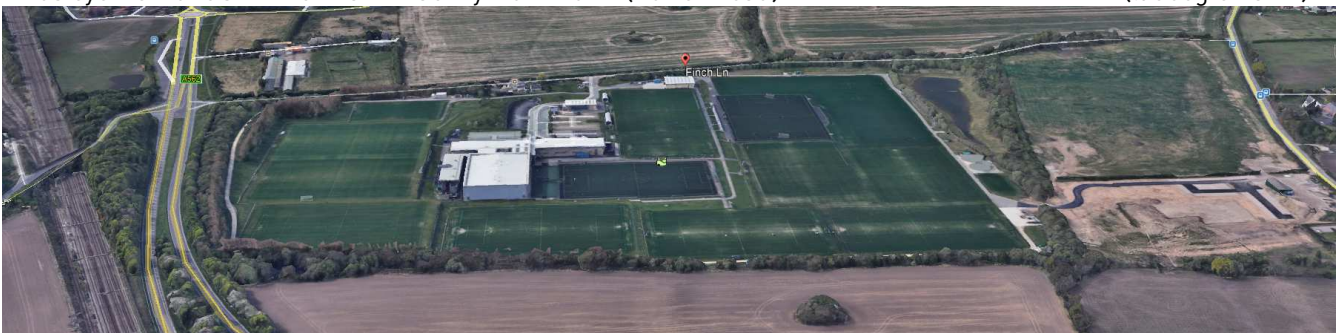
Birds eye view of USM Finch Farm Training Facility from West (Halewood)

(@Google Earth)



Birds eye view of USM Finch Farm Facility from North (Lower Road)

(@Google Earth)



Birds eye view of USM Finch Farm Training Facility from East (A561 Speke Boulevard)

(@Google Earth)



View at ground level of mature Tree Screening and Mound south of application site flanking A562 Higher Road Westbound
(@Google Earth)



View at ground level of mature Tree Screening and Mound west of application site flanking Finch Lane
(@Google Earth)



View from balcony of first team wing looking south west to application site, showing existing 12m camera masts and existing screening mound with tree planting beyond (Early April)



View from balcony of first team wing looking south to application site, showing existing screening mound with tree planting beyond (Early April)

ACCESS FOR DISABLED PERSONS.

Not relevant to this application.

SERVICING

The masts have internal winding and lowering gear so that the luminaires at the head can be lowered down for occasional maintenance.

PRECEDENT

All EPPP Category 1 academy and training facilities typically have a number of floodlit pitches.

As a precedent, Knowsley MBC has granted Everton FC approval on previous occasions (2004, 2015, and 2018) for erection of dark skies compliant floodlighting. These have been implemented.

JUSTIFICATION

Elite professional training requirements have changed greatly since USM Farm was designed and completed in the mid 2000's. Far fewer matches are now played at the traditional 3.00 pm kick off time, and far more Premier League, domestic and European Cup matches are now late afternoon or evening kick offs.

To prepare for matches the team is required to train 24 hours before kick-off to allow recovery time, and therefore this will require floodlit evening training on pitches matching the construction of those at stadium.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The floodlighting is designed to be dark skies compliant and will be switched off at 22.00 hours, as per the existing approvals for similar installations on the USM Finch Farm site.

The nearest residential property, 1 Finch Lane is approximately 100 metres from the nearest proposed floodlight column FL3. However, the 5 lux floodlight contour finishes within the application site, some 70m from the property. There is further visual separation provided by the 6m high running mound with a tree planted summit.

Refer Appendix 1.1 for proposed indicative lighting contours for each pitch.

PROTECTING GREEN BELT LAND

With reference to the National Planning Policy Framework Section 13 Paragraphs 133-147 'Protecting the Green Belt' the proposals are not at variance with the requirements in paragraph 145 (b).

The 12 no. 15m tall masts each have a base footprint above ground of 0.28 m² (600mm diameter) or 3.36 sq.m total of additional footprint. 2 no existing camera masts will be removed and the analysis camera equipment refixed on 2 no central proposed floodlight masts.

The existing current built ground floor footprint at USM Finch Farm Training Centre is approx. 6100m². The additional total footprint of 3.36 sq. m from the 9 no proposed masts is 0.055 %.

John Hampton RIBA Associate Director
AFL Architects Manchester 8 April 2021.

Appendix 1.1 – Illustrative Floodlight Contours – Light Spill Filled Iso Contour

