

## **Flood Risk Assessment**

### For Planning Amendments to

**A New Leisure Centre** 

## **David Lloyd Bicester Club**

## **Catalyst Development**

## Wendlebury Road, Chesterton

## **Bicester, Oxfordshire**

Local Authority– Planning Ref Lead Local Flood Authority Environment Agency Ref Cherwell District Council 19/01740/HYBRID & 21/03343/F Oxfordshire County Council WA/2021/129457/01-L01

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View Looking South East Figure from Design and Access Statement by Hadfield Cawkwell Davidson Architects



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## Attachments

Attachment 1Location, Master Plan, Club Site GA - Consented, and Proposed.Attachment 2Flood Contour Drawing

### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 David Lloyd Bicester will be a new a Leisure Centre with, outdoor pool, terraces, paddle and tennis courts and parking. This development will be built in the North West corner of a larger development known as Catalyst.
- 1.2 A Hybrid planning application was made in 2019 for full planning for the leisure centre and outline planning for the rest of the Catalyst Development. (Ref 19/01740/HYBRID). This was approved in 2020 once inter alia the Environment Agency(EA) withdrew their objection following submission of a *Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Assessment*, prepared by Bailey Johnson Hayes Consulting Engineers (BJH), reference S1358, issue/revision 3, dated 13 February 2020 and the *Flood Risk Impact Assessment Modelling Report*, prepared by JBA Consulting, reference A1-C01, dated February 2020."
- 1.3 The site overall and the leisure site will be considered in the next section.
- 1.3.1 In 2020 a further planning application was made on behalf of David Lloyd Leisure to amend the external site layout to the club. These changes were quite minor changing two outdoor tennis courts to three paddle courts, fitting in a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) and "Battle Box" outdoor gym together with changes to the building entrance. Ref 21/03343/F. As consultees the Environment Agency, objected to the application in the absence of a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) with the application.
- 1.4 This document is a Flood Risk Assessment to address the EA's concerns. It will address the changes to the consented scheme and consider in turn sources of potential flooding and assess



the risk. One of the EA's concerns is that the changes to the leisure club proposals will require additional mitigation compared with the consented proposals, this will be addressed below.

#### 2 The Catalyst Development & Leisure Club within it.

2.1 Location Plan of club within the development.

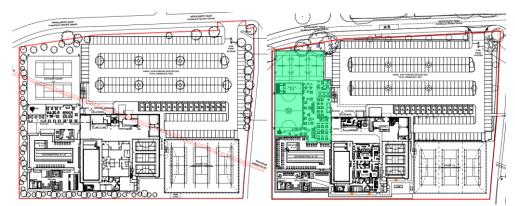


Note the east boundary of the site comprises the Langford Brook.

The Catalyst site is bounded by the red line.

The leisure club site is shaded pink.

- 2.2 The site is approximately 18.4ha in size and is classified as predominantly Greenfield with a small brownfield chicken farm of approximately 2ha in the west. The site is bounded by the Langford Brook to the east, Bicester Avenue Garden Centre to the north, Wendlebury Road to the west and Promised Land Farm to the south. (BJH FRA)
- 2.3 The site slopes down from the Wendlebury road to the Langford Brook and the Brook is prone to flooding. The soils are impermeable clays with lenses of granular gravels.
- 2.4 The Leisure Club is located in the pink shaded area in the North West of the Catalyst Site
- 2.5 Below are extracts of the consented club plan (left) and the amended proposal (right) changes shown in green. (See Attachment 1)





It can be seen that there are no significant changes to the drained areas.

#### 3 Assessment of Flood Likelihood by Potential Source

#### 3.1 Fluvial and Coastal Flooding.

The Catalyst Development includes areas in Flood Zones 1, 2, 3a and 3b which have a Low, Medium, High and Very High likelihood of flooding, respectively.

The leisure club is in Flood Zone 1 which indicates the probability of a fluvial flood is less than 1 in 1000 in any given year. This is shown on the Annex D of the BJH report where the flood contours have been plotted. An extract from that drawing is shown below with the site in pink and whilst the corner of the site appears to cross the 1 in 1000 year boundary, this land is to be used as an external spa area and will be levelled up locally.



The site is remote from the coast and coastal flooding need not be considered further.

Likelihood of flooding from fluvial or coastal sources is **low**.

#### 3.2 Reservoirs and Standing Bodies of Surface Water.

By reference to the BHJ report there are no reservoirs or bodies of surface water that may flood the site. Likelihood of flooding from reservoirs or standing bodies is **none**.

#### 3.3 Ground Water Flooding

Water seepage was found in boreholes where the leisure club is to be located but as stated by BJH in their FRA

The site does not have any history of groundwater flooding although, borehole logs indicate the water table is relatively shallow (approx. 1m bgl). This groundwater appears to be perched within shallow layers of River Terrance Deposits throughout the site. As a result the construction of foundations will encounter groundwater in some areas around the site. The site has been defined as having poor infiltration which makes it difficult for the movement of groundwater through cohesive layers.

Hence the likelihood of ground water flooding once the construction has finished is assessed as **low**.



#### 3.4 Sewer Flooding

BJH in their FRA assess the likelihood as **low** and this applies to the amended proposal.

#### 3.5 Surface Water Flooding

The far side of the road has recently been developed as a hotel which will benefit from a Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS), run off from the road will discharge into a ditch along the verge next to the club site. The road is higher than the development site. So in the event of blockage or excessively heavy storms there is the possibility that exceedence from the road will flow down across the car parks or play areas and be intercepted by the permeable paving and playing surfaces.

However flooding of the buildings from this source is **low** likelihood.

#### 4 Flood Vulnerability.

- 4.1 Based on the NPPF Technical Guidance Table 2: Flood risk vulnerability classification a leisure centre would be in the category *"Less Vulnerable"*
- 4.2 Based on the NPPF Technical Guidance Table 2: Flood risk vulnerability classification of a water recreation facility (Pools and Spas) would be in the category "*Water-compatible development*"

#### 5 Flood resilience

- 5.1 The external spas, outdoor pools, and games courts are designed to be wet from rain so they may be considered to be resilient construction. In the event of a flood, emptying pools and a thorough clean should suffice. Similarly the plant rooms will be resilient with power sockets being mounted on the walls etc.
- 5.2 The club house itself is a mixture of wet and dry areas at ground floor; the wet areas will be inherently resilient but dry areas would be detrimentally affected by flooding.

#### 6 Assessment of Flood Risk.

6.1 Risk is the combination of the likelihood of an event and the harm it would do.

Source of	Likelihood	Vulnerability	Resilience	Risk
Flooding				
Fluvial and	Low			Low
Coastal				
Reservoirs and	None	Water	Generally	None
Standing Bodies		Compatible	Resilient except	
Groundwater	Low	With Less Vulnerable	dry areas of Club house	Low
Sewers	Low			Low
Surface Water	Low			Low

6.2 To summarise the Flood Risk to the Leisure Centre Development is **Low**.



#### 7 Flood Mitigation

7.1 The Catalyst site is located within Flood Zones 1, 2 3a and 3b. *Flood Mitigation Measures* have been designed into the proposal that received hybrid planning consent. The measures were described in the BJH FRA in Section 4 and are extensive. We have summarised our review of each heading from Section 4 in the following table.

	Mitigation Measure	Effect Of Proposed Amendments To	Does Amendment
		Consented Leisure Club Scheme on	Require Changes
		Flood Mitigation	To Mitigation
a)	Development Zoning	None. The leisure centre is located	No
		in the same location as previously	
b)	Wetlands Wildlife Space	None; Wetlands remote from the	No
		leisure centre.	
c)	Land Raising	None The suggested level for	No
		buildings in the FRA is 64.49 m	
		AOD. The ground floor of the	
		leisure centre will be 65.70 m AOD	
d)	Safe Access and Egress	No change	No
e)	Pollution Prevention	No change (Part of SuDS)	No
f)	Flood plain	None. The Leisure Centre is in	No
	compensation scheme	neither the areas of flood volume	
		loss, nor compensation	
g)	Flood Warning	None as club outside zones 2 and 3	No
h)	Management of	No Change	No
	Potential Groundwater		
i)	Management of Surface	The SuDS Proposals for the leisure	No
	Water Runoff	club, previously submitted and	
		accepted are not affected by the	
		amendments except in minor	
		detail (Terrace and court gully	
		locations)	

7.2 It can be seen that the proposed changes do not affect the Mitigation Measures for the Catalyst development as a whole as proposed and consented.

#### 8 Attached documents

Attachment 1 Location, Master Plan, Club Site GA - Consented, and Proposed.

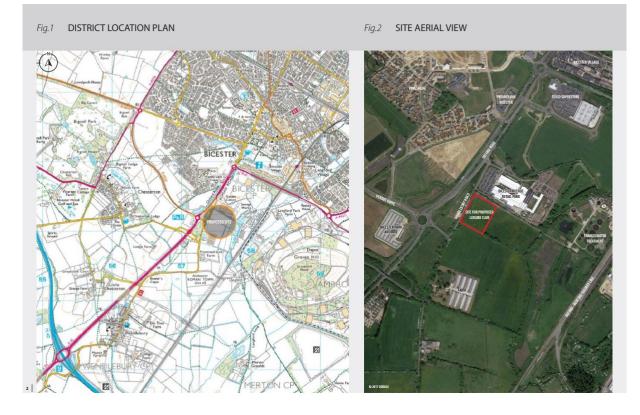
Attachment 2 Flood Contour Drawing



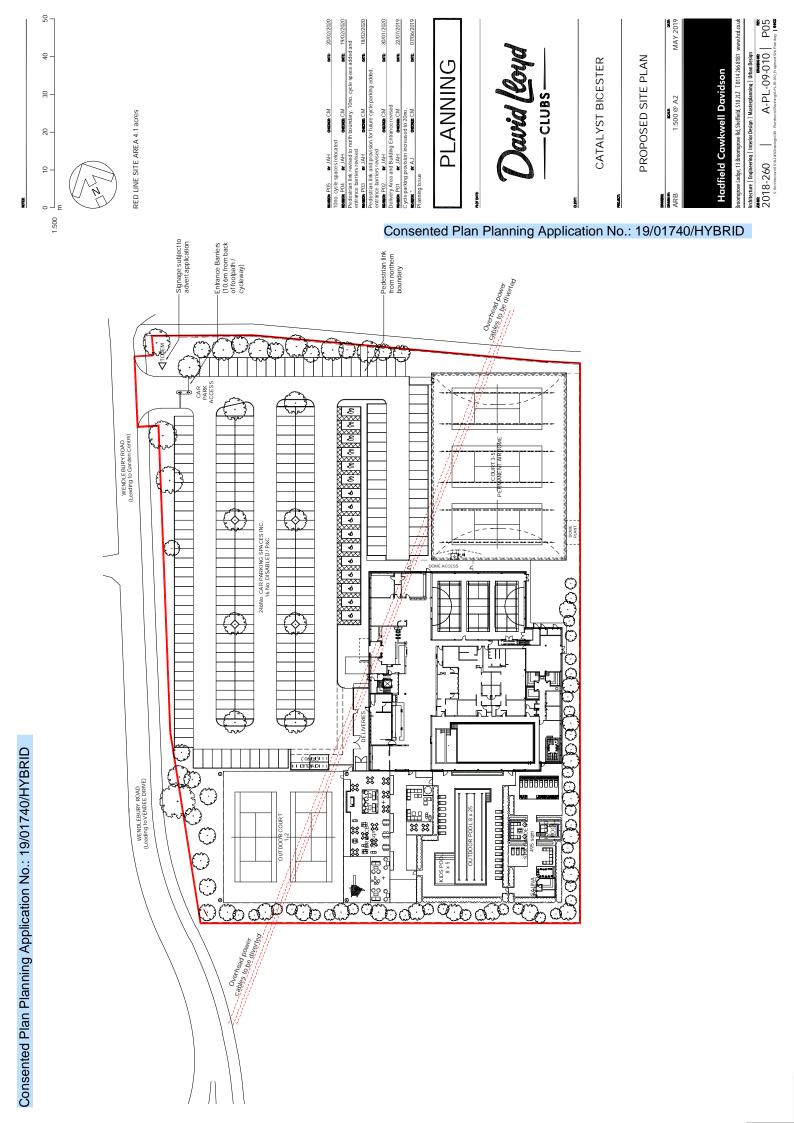
# Attachment 1

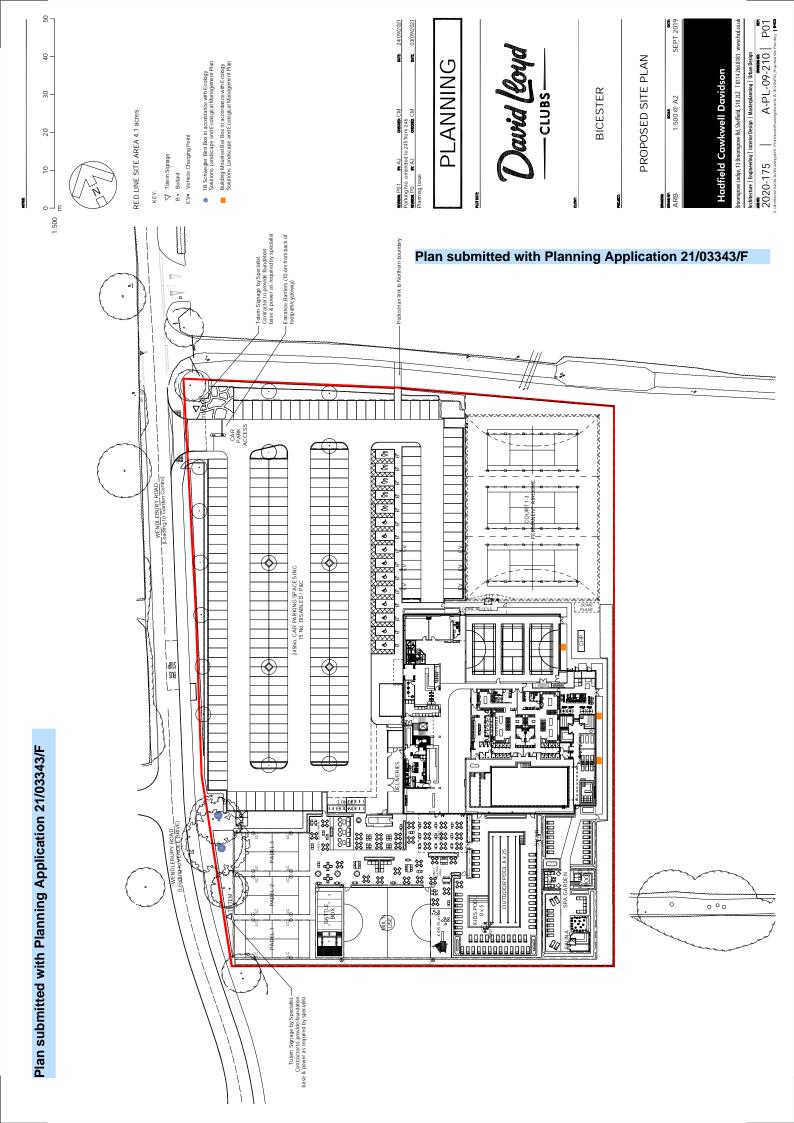
To Flood Risk Assessment for Planning Amendments to A New Leisure Centre David Lloyd Bicester Club				
Cornish Architects Master Plan	18022-SK-025-F	19/01740/HYBRID		
Hadfield Cawkwell Davidson ArchitectsConsented Site Plan of Club2018-260-PL-09-010-P0519/01740/HYBRIDAmended Site Plan of Club2018-260-PL-09-210 P0121/03343/F				

Figures from Design and Access Statement by Hadfield Cawkwell Davidson Architects











## Attachment 2

То

Flood Risk Assessment for Planning Amendments to A New Leisure Centre David Lloyd Bicester Club

## Bailey Johnson Hayes Consulting Engineers, Flood Contour Plan S1538-Ext-13B

Annex D

Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Assessment, prepared by Bailey Johnson Hayes Consulting Engineers, reference S1358, issue/revision 3, dated 13 February 2020

